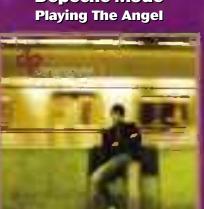


Top Dog for Christmas Gifts



Depeche Mode



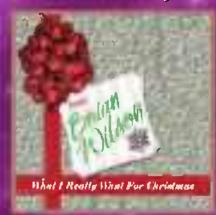
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THE STROKES HIT UK FOR A WEEK – AND THEY'RE LOVING IT!

The last time **The Strokes** came this way, it was very different. Following the muted response to 'Room On Fire' in 2003, the band's push was just a handful of cautious "big gigs" across the country.

By contrast, for 'First Impressions Of Earth', The Strokes – possibly inspired by **Albert Hammond Jr**'s love of airline cuisine – are gigging around the globe in just over a week. And it seems the New York quintet are having the time of their lives.

Following secret gigs in Japan and Australia, the band came to the UK last week, playing two gigs and making an appearance on *Top Of The Pops* (November 27).

NME joins them as they're sat in a BBC studio waiting for presenter Fearne Cotton to introduce them. Drummer Fab Moretti belts out an uncanny, moustache-aided impression of Queen's Freddie Mercury, while Julian Casablancas manages a little boogie to The Pussycat Dolls before they are summoned to perform 'Juicebox' for the evening's show. They then tape 'You Only Live Once' and 'Heart In A Cage' for good measure.

Two days later (November 29) and the set swells to 21 songs as the band showcase their new album at London ULU for just 800 lucky souls – many of whom endured a night sat outside in the cold to get tickets for the show.

Watched by the likes of **Franz Ferdinand**, **Editors** and **Blondie** (*NME* even spies The Mighty Boosh and **Stereophonics** swapping notes at the aftershow), Casablancas and his band mix newies such as 'Vision Of Division' and '15 Minutes' with favourites including 'Last Nite'.

"Hey, you crazy motherfuckers," the singer tells the sweaty audience, "thanks for being our second home."

Catching-up with guitarist **Nick Valenst** the following day, the truth is finally out – The Strokes *are* having a blast. "I liked ULU, it was fun," declares the

"I liked ULU, it was fun," declares the guitarist. "It's weird though, when we're playing our new songs it feels a little bit like we're being judged. But I think we're up for that challenge."

Even the head-spinning global trek can't detract from the band's spirit.

"I'm really enjoying London this time round," explains Valensi. "I've been to a couple of really good restaurants. An Italian place, San Lorenzo, that was fantastic. You've got to go – have the lamb shank!" And then finally it's Friday (December 2),

And then finally it's Friday (December 2), or rather New Year's Eve, as they record an intimate show at MTV's Camden studios.

"We're taping it for New Year's Eve, it should be cool," says Valensi before showtime. "Will we cover 'Auld Lang Syne'? No, but maybe that's a good idea," he adds with a laugh.

'FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF EARTH' TRACK BY TRACK

The Strokes have given NME an exclusive track-by-track guide to their third album, 'First Impressions Of Earth'. "It's a little bit different," warns guitarist Nick Valensi. "But I think people will still be able to tell it's The Strokes – they just sound a little bit more mature."

► 'You Only Live Once' Foot-stamping opener

Fab Moretti: "I remember Julian playing this on the piano and me thinking that it was fucking awesome! I felt like I knew this song already."

▶ 'Juicebox'

Ballsy, gonzo-rock-sized first single
AH: "We heard the riff and it was like,
'Dude, that's it, let's get in the studio!"
Julian Casablancas: "No, when I first
played that riff a lot of people thought
I was joking."
NME: Was it influenced

NME: Was it influenced by a cop show's theme? JC: "No." (Rest of band start singing cop tune themes.)

➤ 'Heart In A Cage' A younger, edgy cousin of Iggy Pop's 'The

Passenger'
FM: "This song was going to
be on the last record - 'Private Dick', it was
once called - but it was too late. It was
a blessing in disguise, really, because had

it would have worked out so well."

▶ 'Razorblade'

Sounds a bit like Barry Manilow's 'Mandy' – remarkably, this is actually a good thing

it been recorded back then, I don't think

FM: "Razorblade' was one of the first songs we sat down and played together. Oh, and it was one of the first transcomputer gigs we've ever done!" Rest of band: "Er?"

JC: "Trans-comp...? Oh, I emailed it to you..."

▶ 'On The Other Side'

A slow, choppy ode to the spirit realm?
FM: "I remember when Julian first played it for us he had a cold and he sounded like a fucking bullfrog. Like Johnny Cash on testosterone steroids!"

➤ 'Vision Of Division'

An angry sounding mix of throatshredding vocals and bad-ass guitar lines

FM: "I heard this over at Albert's house and the guys played it for me and it was completely different." JC: "No, that was 'Ize Of The World'. He's getting it confused because sometimes our songs swap."

► 'Ask Me Anything'

The Strokes totally stripped, just synth-strings and Julian's bare vocals NME: The lyrics are fairly morose. What kind of mood were you in when you wrote it, Julian?

JC: "Suicidal! No, I'm usually in a fairly neutral mood when I'm writing. It just comes from other times and things sinking in, it's very subconscious." NME: So who plays on the track then? FM: "Billy Joel. Yeah, we got him in to play the mellotron." [It was actually Nick Valensi]

▶ 'Electricityscape'

Big chorus, static-fried vocals and clipped guitars. A Strokes classic?

AH: "I remember falling asleep when a few of you guys were working on this one."

FM: "Ha! Yeah! Albert fell asleep facedown on his guitar!"

▶ 'Killing Lies'

Rhythm-led pounder that oscillates between euphoria and introspection FM: "Killing Lies' was first arranged and brought to life at the studio of The Dandy Warhols. They invited us to dinner, they're great guys. Sorry, great guys and girl."

▶ 'Fear Of Sleep

Slow-building monster.
Boasts some of Julian's best
lung-busting singing
FM: "This was one of the
most difficult songs on
the record. To arrange,
I mean. It just never
seemed right at some
points and then it did."

• '15 Minutes'

A badly behaved drinking anthem. Surprisingly reminiscent of Shane MacGowan

NV: "We had two different ways to play it. A very Pogues-y version, and a punk-rock version. Then they became one and the same."

► 'Ize Of The World'

A hip-swinging little tune which sees The Strokes take aim at modern alienation

NME: What are the Ize of the world?
AH: "Isn't it what every word ends with?
Modernize, computerize... (Julian shakes head) Or am I wrong? I'm wrong."
JC: "Once you hear the lyrics to the song, it's pretty clear what it means."

► 'Evening Sun'

Stoic yet determined, possibly the most 'classic Strokes' sounding song here FM: "Julian just did this and we found it on Gordon [Raphael, producer]'s computer. We went up to Julian and said, 'Why didn't you play us this song?' It's become one of my favourites. Oh, and he and I both played the drums."

JC: "Oh, please don't print that."

FM: "Are you going to deny that? If you listen to the end you will hear that there are two drummers."

▶ 'Red Light'

A sprightly and dexterous closer

JC: "OK, I have a story about this one, but I'm not sure I should tell it."
FM: "Dude, it's the last one. Tell it or I will hit you!"

JC: "All over my body? OK... somebody got me tickets for Mozart's 'Requiem', I was just really stoned, so afterwards I thought it would be cool to write something inspired by opera. I went back, got this really strong melody together and there it was... 'Red Light'!" (The band applaud the story.)

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Stones confirm they will make a high-profile appearance at the US Super Bowl XL in Detroit, Michigan 🕨 Goldfrapp and Placebo join The Prodigy at the Nokia Isle Of Wight Festival on June 9





First bands sign up for the ShockWaves Awards Shows 2006

he ShockWaves NME Awards Shows 2006 are set to take over London for two weeks next year - and here are the first bands who've signed up.

NME will stage gigs across the capital in February in the run-up to the ShockWaves NME Awards 2006 on February 23. Each night will feature a stunning line-up, with every gig aiming to showcase the bands everyone will be talking about next year.

Opening on February 10 at Camden's KOKO will be **Clap Your Hands Say Yeah**, while other headliners include **The Zutons** at the same venue (February 14), **The Magic Numbers** at the Brixton Carling Academy (February 16), **Editors** at Charing Cross Astoria (22) and **Nine Black Alps** at Hammersmith Palais (24).

For The Zutons' singer **Dave McCabe**, their night, which features **Vincent Vincent And The Villains** and **Fields** on the bill, will give the band the chance to preview tracks from their long-awaited second album, which is due in the spring.

"I think we'll be playing mainly new stuff," he explained. "I'd say 80 per cent will be new, or half-and-half – the best of the best!" However, McCabe hopes the night will be different to the last time he went to KOKO, when he was at a party thrown by Blondie. He laughed: "We went there the other week and Cliff Richard and Cilla Black were there, which was funny. So if they turn up on the night I'll be thoroughly pissed off. They were all hanging out together, so I hope they don't turn up 'cos if they do they'll steal the show!" After last week's shows supporting Franz

Ferdinand, Editors will play one of their first shows of the year at the Astoria. Although the full line-up is still being finalised, singer **Tom Smith** promised it'd be a corker.

"We did the Astoria on the last tour, but the last time we did it I think the place got the better of me," he said. "It was a good show, but I'm looking forward to having another chance. We're doing our best to get a line-up we want to watch, let alone the people coming to the gigs."

And as *NME* went to press, **Biffy Clyro** had just signed-up to headline KOKO on February 20.

"It's our first time - we've heard really good things about the *NME* shows," said singer **Simon Neil**, adding that although their gig was going to be "the best", he wouldn't mind checking out some of the other bands.

He added: "I've only heard a few Nine Black Alps tunes and they seem like a rocking band. I got **Test lcicles**' record and it's crazy enough for me. I dig it! It'll be interesting to see them play live because they don't have a drummer – they play into a DAT machine."

This week's announcement is just the beginning. Make sure you pick up next week's double Christmas issue of *NME*, out on December 14, for yet more bands.





February 10 - Camden KOKO Clap Your Hands Say Yeah Dr Dogg

February 14 - Camden KOKO The Zutons Vincent Vincent And The Villains Fields

February 16 - Brixton Carling Academy
The Magic Numbers
The Concretes
Shout Out Louds

February 20 – Camden KOKO Biffy Clyro Guests TBC

February 22 – Charing Cross Road Astoria Editors Guests TBC

February 24 – Hammersmith Palais Nine Black Alps Test Icicles The Longcut Wolfmother

"We're going to play the best of the best!" Dave McCabe, The Zutons Tickets for all shows are on sale now. Go to NME.COM/GIGS or call the NME Ticketline on 0870 1 663 663 for more details. If tickets sell as quickly as they did for the tour, you'd better be fast!



SAM FORREST NINE BLACK ALPS

If an alien landed on Earth and you were explaining to them why they should come to your *NME* show, what would you say?

"They should come because our shows are a fair representation of humans floundering with something out of their control. It's probably a good time for the aliens to brainwash us and steal our bodies - we're at our most vulnerable onstage."

Have you been to an **NME** show before? "No. My friends went to the 2004 Franz Ferdinand

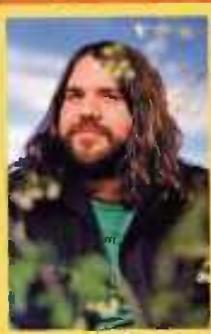
ones, but I didn't go."

Will you be playing any new material?

"Yes. We've actually got all of January off to write new material. We've already got lots of '60s bubblegum pop songs in the bag. We tired of 'new grunge', it's kind of killed us. We're just going to go more retarded, it's going to be fun for us now."

Who are you looking forward to seeing?

"The Longcut - I haven't seen them for years. They lived near me in Manchester and I saw them a lot socially, but I've never had their full live experience."



CYHSY: they should KOKO

The Zutons:

going KOKO nuts

ROMEO STODART THE MAGIC NUMBERS

If an alien landed on Earth and you were explaining to them why they should come to your *NME* shows, what would you say?

"My spaceship has crash landed, I hear you have a regenerative force here called rock'n'roll, where can I find it? My dilithium crystals are down! The Magic Numbers at our NME shows." (eh!? -Sci Fi Ed)

Have you been to an **NME** show before?

'Yes, and it was great! Super Furry Animals weird and fantastic.'

Will you be playing any new material?

"Yes, we're planning on playing one or two.

Who are you looking forward to seeing on your night?

'All three bands are good friends, but especially The Concretes, as they're our favourite new band."



TOM SMITH EDITORS

If an alien landed on Earth and you were explaining to them why they should come to your *NME* shows, what would you say?

"If it had never heard music before it's the best place to start. I know it's a big-headed thing to say, but there you go."

Have you been to an NME show before?

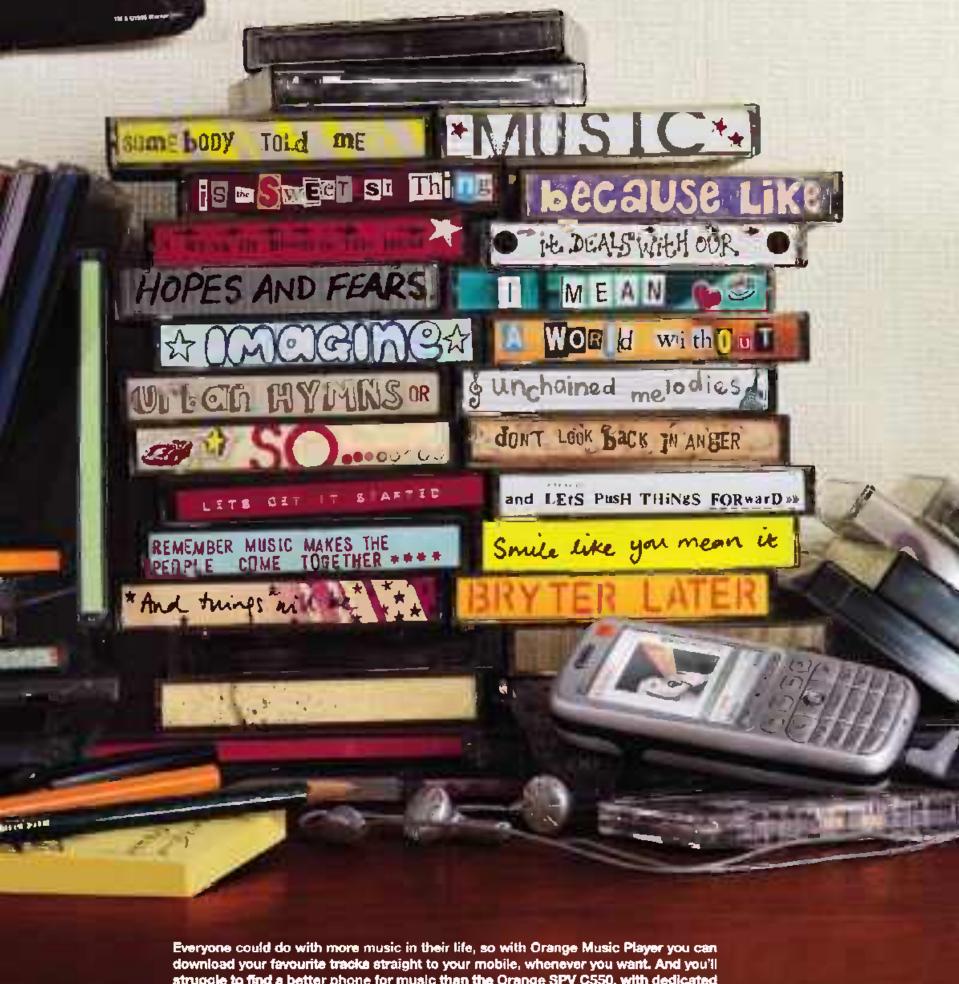
"I remember going to the tour in Wolverhampton a couple of times. I saw Andrew WK - that was fucking amazing - and I remember ages ago in **Bristol seeing Coldplay** when they were first on.

I've seen most of the tours over the last five years and they're always a great night out, so I'm looking forward to it."

Will you be playing any new material?

"I hope so. We've got a month over Christmas to start the writing process again, so I'll be disappointed if we don't. We'll be playing the NME show off the back of the European tour, so I think there'll be ideas kicking around from over Christmas that we will have to demo and write and bring to fruition on those dates.'

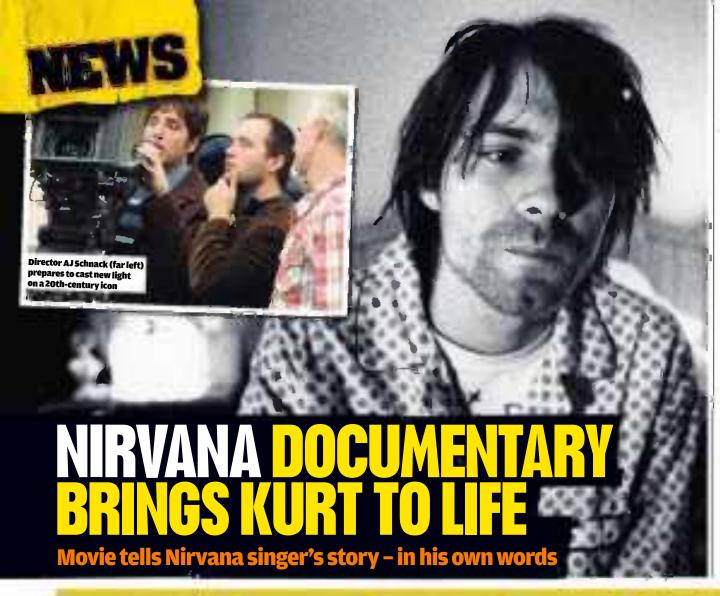




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the future's bright



new Kurt Cobain film is in the making - one which will be narrated by Cobain himself. Filmmakers have been in the singer's hometown of Aberdeen. Washington working on a documentary. Producers will use more than 25 hours of interview tapes recorded by journalist Michael Azerrad while researching his Nirvana biography Come As You Are between December 1992 and March 1993.

"I worked with Michael to cull an approximately 95-minute audio track from these interviews," director AJ Schnack told NME. "While I'm not sure that 'narrated' is exactly the right word, you will be listening in on conversations between Kurt and Michael, with Kurt telling his life story for that book.

"It means a great deal to me that he [Azerrad] trusted me with the material because I know how important it is to him," Schnack continued. "I just hope that by the end of the film people have a truer sense of Kurt, both from his own words as well as the visuals that we are shooting in Aberdeen, Olympia and Seattle, Hopefully, we can cut through some of the mythology that has made him a larger-than-life character and create something that is intimate and personal."

The other members of Nirvana are not involved with the currently untitled movie, which is set to be premiered next autumn. Schnack added: "It pretty much covers his whole life leading up to the interviews, with the emphasis being more on him and his general take on things rather than on band developments. The music will focus on bands that influenced Kurt. It's unclear what part, if any, Nirvana music may play in the finished film."



YEAH YEAH YEAHS

ah Yeah Yeahs are giving fans a chance to design the cover of their new album, due early next year.

The band are running a competition to find the best designed flag that, according to the rules, '[Embodies] the symbolic essence you have vibed off of us totally to the max.' For details on how to enter, visit NME.COM. However, the deadline is December 8, so you'd better be quick!

U2

design a Gibson guitar, sales of which will help musicians caught up in Hurricane Katrina.

He said: "Providing replacement instruments through Music Rising will not only help professional musicians to regain a foothold on their future, but will also ensure that one of the Gulf Coast's greatest assets, its music, will rise again."

For information go to www.musicrising.org.

Richard Asheroft

ard Ashcroft has said new album 'Keys To The World' (out January 23) has some of his most political material yet on it.

"Why Not Nothing' is about how the world's turning so conservative and so religious," Ashcroft said.

"I think it's up to the songwriters to give another side to the coin and my music does that. It's not an atheist side but it's someone saving it, that doesn't necessarily believe in all that.'

KAISER CHIEFS

on believes his university TV watching will stand him in good stead on the Kaiser current Australian tour. 'I'm really looking forward to it, because they speak English and I do know everything about their culture from my daytime television," revealed the singer, who has a frightening recollection of Neighbours plotlines. "We're going there with Foo Fighters which couldn't be better.

PAGE WELLER

Paul Weller has ruled out ever reuniting The Jam, the band in which he made his name.

"Nah, that would never happen. Why would I want to go back? For nostalgic reasons? That's never good enough," he told Uncut. "My philosophy is to embrace the new day and get on with it. If The Jam reformed now it'd just be a sad cabaret."

The latest issue of NME's sister mag Uncut is out now.

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every of approximated somewhat come were week the records up come







The cream of the north east do their bit for charity... $\,$

espite being in the middle of recording their second album, **The Futureheads** have taken time out to guest on a single in aid of homeless charity, Shelter.

The single, a version of 'The 12 Days Of Christmas', will be released under the guise of Joseph & Mary Chain. Featuring Kathryn Williams and members of **Field Music**, the single features **Jaff** and **Barry Hyde** singing a verse of the Christmas classic.

They make an appearance singing: "On the fifth day of Christmas my true love sent to me/Five golden rings/Four calling birds/Three French hens/Two turtle doves/And a partridge in a pear tree."

"The collaboration came about due to the fact producer of the track, Field Music's Peter Brewis, shares a studio with the band," organiser Dave Harper told *NME*. "They're recording their second album and

were really busy, but because they were so close, they came down and sang a few lines."

Harper went on to say that the single will be promoted by a gig in aid of Shelter, which will feature the likes of Field Music and Kathryn Williams, as well as Sons Of Brenda and Golden Virgins.

'The 12 Days Of Christmas', which is released on December 19, will be released exclusively on seven-inch vinyl and limited to 1,000 copies, making it one of the rarest Futureheads releases ever. Outside the north east, the single is available via the Distraction Records website (www. distractionrecords.com). To hear clips from it go to www. mekonadelta.co.uk.

The Futureheads are currently working on their second album with Blur and Doves producer Ben Hiller. The album is due for release in spring of next year.

'HEADS HEADING FOR XMAS NUMBER ONE?

While they're doing their bit for charity this Christmas, it's probably best not to put a bet on The Futureheads making it to the top spot come December 25.

According to bookmakers, the winner of this year's X Factor is the most likely, with only The Pogues re-release of 'Fairytale Of New York' adding a twist of the rock'n'roll spirit.

The latest odds, according to William Hill, are:

X Factor Winner 8-15 Nizlopi 2-1 Westlife and Diana Ross 11-1 The Choir Boys 12-1

Ross 11-1 The Choir Boys 12-1 Chico Slimani 14-1 Keedie and England Cricket Team 14-1 The Pogues 14-1 Crazy Frog 25-1 Robbie Williams 20-1 James Blunt 25-1 Take That 25-1 Oasis 33-1 Coldplay 40-1 Madonna 50-1

UPCOMING RELEASES



DECEMBER 19 Ryan Adams

29 (Lost Highway)

Three is the charm as the

self-proclaimed "Tom Hanks of altcountry" concludes 2005 with this solo effort and his third album of the year. Next year he plans to release nine box-sets, allegedly.

Coldplay

Talk (Parlophone)
The feud of the year shows no sign of abating as Coldplay and the Crazy Frog go for single glory.
Expect Chris Martin battling hip-hop stylee on the B-side, perhaps.



DEC Hard Cash

DECEMBER 26

Cash Machine (Atlantic)

Richard Archer will be

celebrating the Boxing Day re-release of this single if his team, Brentford, can beat Swansea on the same day. But with the Swans going well, it looks like it will be chart glory alone for the Staines mob.



JANUARY 2 The Strokes First Impressions Of Earth (Rough Trade)

Kicking off the new year with their third album, The Strokes unleash their collection of sex-inducing (if the video is anything to go by) songs on an unsuspecting globe. Note to all other bands releasing albums in 2006: the gauntlet has been thrown down.

Notorious BIG

The Final Chapter (Atlantic)

Having already appeared in Madonna's rubbish ad for a mobile phone, Biggie Smalls is releasing an album of duets. It might, therefore, surprise you to learn he is dead. No chance of letting the poor man rest in peace, then?

Supergrass

Fin (Parlophone)

Another nifty slice of bad-mannered pop as the Oxfordshire quartet deliver this winter warmer in single form.

What would your girlfriend do for a backstage pass?

Now is a good time to ask with Vodafone Stop the Clock.

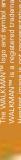
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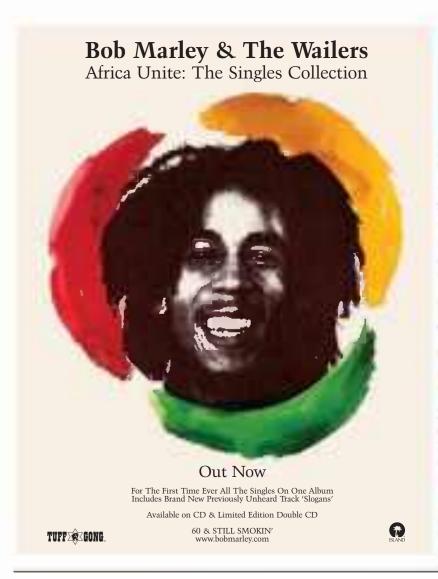
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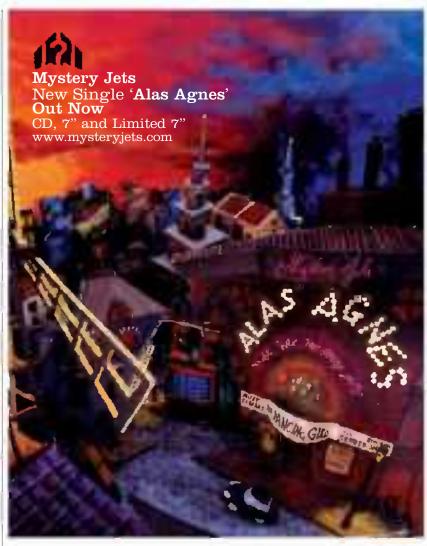


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new singles



FRANZ FERDINAND WALK AWAY

Walk Away is the second single to be lifted off the No.1 album You Could Have It So Much Better. The CD single and 7" both feature exclusive B-sides, the DVD includes the video, a live version of This Boy and downloadable wallpaper.

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Mystery Jets Alas Agnes

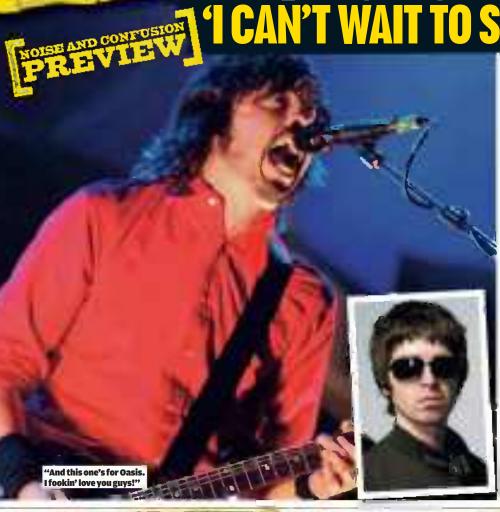
The hotly tipped Mystery Jets release live favourite Alas Agnes. Produced by James Ford (Arctic Monkeys/ Test Icicles), the CD and 7" both have new B-sides, whilst the limited 7" is all live tracks.

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Foo Fighter praises the Gallaghers on the eve of Noise And Confusion

f you're going to see **Oasis** at the Noise And Confusion event this weekend, look out down the front for **Dave Grohl**.

Foo Fighters and Oasis both appear on Saturday (December 10) at the Cardiff Millennium Stadium. The line-up also features **Razorlight** and **The Coral.** For Grohl, a big fan, it'll be an exciting gig.

"I love Oasis. There's no way that you can't love them because they make such excellent fucking music," he told NME. "There are really very few bands that make it that difficult to hate them just by being so fucking good. I know in interviews they come over like touchy bastards or whatever but you can sit down with them in a bar and have a couple of drinks and you will have the night of your life.

"I get on with anybody, but those guys are great. The last time I saw Noel he was in Covent Garden and he just tapped me on the shoulder and was like, 'Alright mate?'. He was happy because he'd just got out of an interview. Their music is fucking good and their songs are fucking contagious."

Foo Fighters are second on the bill in Cardiff, but on the other side of the world things are somewhat different.

"Just before the Cardiff date we're playing with them in Perth, Australia and if I'm correct they're the ones that are supporting us!" Dave laughed. "But that's Down Under where the water goes down the plughole the wrong way, so whatever."

Yeti, Nic Armstrong And The Thieves and The Subways are last-minute additions to the bill. Turn to page 28 now for our exclusive interview with Noel Gallagher.

RAZORLIGHT RETURN

Razorlight were persuaded to appear at Noise And Confusion by a certain Noel Gallagher. Bassist Carl Dalemo claims they couldn't say no:

"It's been a while for us the last thing we did was in September. Our plan was really to wait and do the album but we thought we'd do this because it's a wicked bill, Oasis, Foo Fighters, us, The Coral.

"Noel came down to one of our Ally Pally shows earlier in the year, so that might have had something to do with us getting on the bill. He seemed to like us and was a nice guy."

Kanye West treads the boards in London



Kanye West will precede his UK tour with a one-off show in one of London's top theatres.

The rap star will be performing an exclusive concert at the 2,000 capacity Theatre Royal Drury Lane on February 26 for one night only. He will then be returning for a full tour in the spring. For ticket info, call MME Tickets on 0870 1 663 663.

The Rolling Stones to play all-new Wembley



The Rolling Stones will be one of the first bands to appear at London's new Wembley Stadium when they tour next year.

The show, on August 20, 2006, comes towards the end of the European leg of the group's A Bigger Bang world tour. UK shows are also confirmed for Glasgow Hampden Park (Aug 25), Sheffield Don Valley Stadium (27) and Cardiff Millennium Stadium (29). Tickets are on sale now. For more information, call NME Tickets on 0870 1 663 663.

Franz Ferdinand make live tracks available



Franz Ferdinand are to release live versions of their new single 'Walk Away'.

Two different recordings, one from Glasgow, one from London, have been made available via the band's official website www. franzferdinand.co.uk.

The single was released last Monday (December 5) on CD format, and features a cover of Air's 'Sexy Boy' on the B-side.

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Finally Britain has caught up with the rest of Europe in allowing 24-hour drinking. Mine's a midnight pint, says NME's James Jam

'Yooooou're my besht mate you are. I looovvvveeeee yooooooo. I'vvvee beeeen drinkinggg all weeeek. I'm pissssssed out of my minddd!' Er... except I'm not. Because, much like many of you, I'm over the age of 18 and possess all the attributes that adulthood grants me. Stuff like restraint.

See, 24-hour drinking has been in operation for almost two weeks now, and I've barely noticed the difference. Oh, except for last weekend, when there was a complete and utter *lack* of violence and ruckus in the busy city, town and village centres of England.

If there's any one thing that depresses me about my nationality, it's us Brits' enthusiasm for smashing each other to a pulp come the ring-a-ding-ding of closing time. But really, is it any wonder? Ten minutes before 11 and the bell sounds for LAST ORDERS. Ten minutes to order as much booze as possible, down it before the landlord comes round and hit the streets steaming along with the denizens of every single other pub in the country.

Thank God those days have passed. And if someone wants to drink until the sun comes

up? Well let them. There's only so much you can drink before you fall asleep, or die. The right to do what we like to our bodies comes with the acquisition of the status of adult.

More importantly, how does this affect rock'n'roll? Will the bars of Brixton Academy crumble under the increased thirst of a thirsty gig-going nation? Will notorious teetotaler Ross Futurehead buckle under

The right to do what we like comes with the status of adult

the pressure of liberal licensing and decide, 'Scrap the tomato juice. Actually I'll have a pint of bitter, barman'? No. Rock'n'roll won't change one jot, unless you consider that next time you pile out of a show, wired to the max, with volume and melody swilling around your head, you'll be able to sit and wind down with a beer, rather than spending hours tossing and turning as you strive to numb the buzz.

Twenty-four-hour drinking, especially in a country so keen to put a dampener on its youth, is a vindication for common sense and a reward for free will. Britain had a drinking problem, which it still has, and until the country finds a support system for its hangover (more taxis, better public transport, debate on why people destroy themselves) it'll have a problem for a long time to come. Yet new licensing marks the road to recovery, and the freedom of choice is empowering in the lollop towards the civilisation of insobriety. To drink or not to drink - we can decide. And with that, I'm off to get off my nuts on hard liquor. Except, well, I'm not. 'Cos I'm an adult. And I have

AGREE? DISAGREE?

restraint. Much like you.

Tell us what you think. Email letters@nme.com

ARTISTS' VIEW



ALAN DONOHOE

"It's nice not to be patronised by people in authority and good that you can finally be trusted to drink at whatever time you fancy."



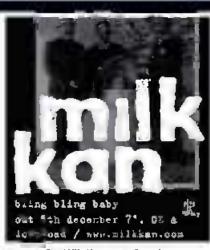
MIKE SKINNER

"I don't think it will fix that much because drinking to get drunk is ingrained in us. Even if you go to Spain, where the bars are open all night, the goal is get drunk. It will take a few generations to get rid of that."



LIELA MOSS THE DUKE SPIRIT

"Bring it on. I don't want to drink in the exact allotted times as nine to fivers anyway. Let's space it all out a bit and create more jobs for bar staff!"



See Millik Kan Live in December 14 Manchester John Gogg / 22 Landon: The Windrell







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hinsor JAMES WALSH, STARSAILOR In his eyes, a band is "for life, not just for Christmas". So be nice to him ello, James. Where are you? Why aren't Starsailor as big as "I'm in Belgium! No - Holland! In **Coldplay?** Amsterdam (Has a little laugh). It's "I don't know. Hmmm. Er... It probably absolutely freezing. It was hailing comes down to famous friends. He knows golf balls earlier." a lot of Bono-type figures, and with all the red carpet glitterati they're always the first Actual golf balls? name off the lips, aren't they?

"No, just hailstones the size of golf balls."

What would one need to do to get crossed off the James Walsh Christmas card list?

"Well, it hasn't happened this year. I'm tying to think of a witty repertoire (sic) for you... Er... if someone offends my daughter or my wife Lisa they'd be straight off the list. They can say what they like about me, though - I've heard it all before."

Starsailor once won an NME 'Brightest New Hope' award. Do you still have it, and is it rude if we ask for it back?

"I do still have it - it's on my window sill at home, so people can see it when they're going past. And the platinum discs and things are going up the stairs, on the landing kind of thing when you walk up."

Have you identified a reason for your last three singles not going Top 20?

"I don't know. I think the competition in Britain is hotting up. There's just so many amazing bands, and I think there's always a hunger for something new, whereas in Europe, for example, a band is for life, not just for Christmas."

Is it possible that your music has become so challenging that mere members of the public simply can't understand what you're doing?

"Possibly. There's still a few of them who are liking it, though. Maybe it's a slow burner. Maybe everyone will come on board in the coming months."

Do you not have your own famous friends?

"Er, I have Tim Burgess and Colin Murray. More sort of local heroes."

Keeping it real.

"Exactly.

George Best is now dead. Does this make you sad or are you indifferent?

"A bit of both, really. It's terribly sad that he's finally passed away but at the same time it didn't come unexpectedly. It's amazing that he'd hung in there that long.

"Liam Gallagher came out as a Starsailor fan. He came up at Glasto and told us he liked us"

But a sad loss to football nonetheless. He must have been a special man, for me to say that, being a Liverpool fan!"

Does being a good footballer and legendary Lothario make up for being a drink-driving wife-beater?

"Er... no. It's inexcusable. I don't think that side of his personality should be celebrated. I mean, think about how amazing he was as a footballer, then think about how much better he could have been if it wasn't for all that other stuff."

The banging Stuart Price mix of 'Four To The Floor' is your best release ever. Could you do a whole album with him, please, like Madonna has just done?

"Possibly, yes. I was speaking to him the other night after our gig in Brixton because he was staying at the same hotel. What happened in France was interesting - that mix of the song became a lot bigger than our own version of it. It felt like we were starting again, with an added element to the band."

Noel Gallagher once wished you dead. Did any Wile E Coyote-style boulders fall in your path in the weeks following that statement?

"It's funny you should ask - yesterday we were on the way to a video shoot and a Land Rover ploughed into the back of our people carrier. We were near a load of lock-up garages - they could have been employed by Mr Gallagher. The funny thing about that is, when Noel said that, Liam came out as a Starsailor fan. He came up to us at Glastonbury and told us how much he liked 'Four To The Floor'."

You see, James, returning to the subject, you wouldn't be in trouble if more of your songs sounded like

'Four To The Floor'. Couldn't you just do an album full of different versions of that?

James promised he'd crack a

smile if Starsailor had another

UK Top 20 hit. Oh well, there's

a new release in January...

"Yes, we could. With various mixes. We could have 'Five To The Floor', 'Six To The Floor'. er..."

Do you have any cash-in DVDs out for Christmas?

"No. But we've got a single coming out at the end of January."

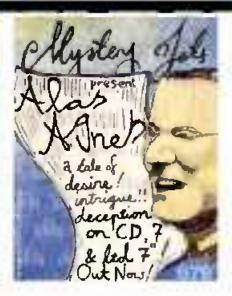
Any other business?

"I'm not sure there is, really. Oh - just because the pubs are open for 24 hours, it doesn't mean you should drink for 24 hours. Take your time. Go out later. Go for dinner first. And keep buying the album. I think the album's going to be discounted in a few shops for Christmas, so keep an eye out if you don't have it yet. You might be able to get it a bit cheaper."

- James would like a video iPod for Christmas, in case any of you are thinking of buying him a present.
- He prefers turkey to goose.
- That said, he's never actually eaten goose, so who knows, eh?







Love something? Loathe it? Then write to the world's greatest letters page

Monkeys – you've gone to heaven

THREE WISE MONKEYS

Thanks for putting Alex Turner at the top of your 2005 Cool List (NME, November 26). That lad is the epitome of cool: a leader for the new generation of romanticist indie kids, he's also the kind of guy you could imagine hanging out with at gigs or at the back of geography class. We're sick of say-nothing indie bands preening and posturing like they're massive rock stars even though they can barely sell out the Barfly. Alex is an everyman icon – modest, smart, good-looking, working class, British – very very very cool in other words.

Rory, Nottingham

That NME Cool List the other week made a great read. Along with all the other beautiful people (more of luscious, pouting Kate Jackson of The Long Blondes please), it was good to see Damon Albarn finally getting some recognition (um, apart from the numerous times we've put him on the cover – BP). I always thought he was a cartoon or something and not actually real. Is he real? Are you real? Is this all a figment of my imagination?

King Of The Swingers, via email

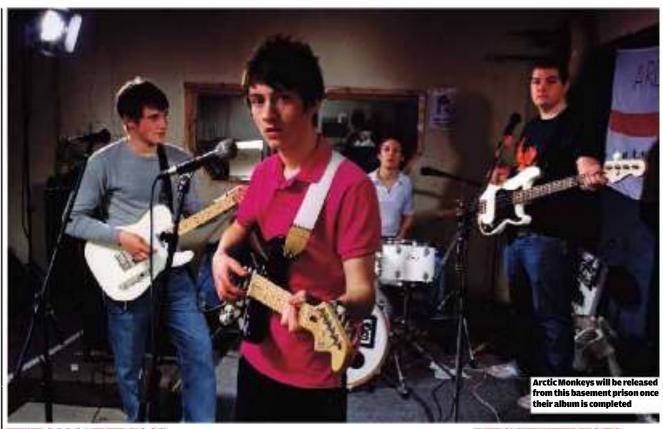
Thanks for the array of useful factettes embedded neatly among your Cool List 2005 last week, *NME*. So Ian Brown doesn't like being called King Monkey, does he? Well, I suppose you wouldn't call him that to his face, would you? You'd be monkey nuts to do it

Pete, in the mist

Thanks for your kind words. Glad, too, that our simian threesome pleased you – BP

Why the hell did you put that guy from Arctic Monkeys as the coolest man in rock? I mean, have you seen their video? It's shit, how cheap can you get? It's like they got some random hobo to record it for them and used it as a promo. Plus, has anyone noticed what clothes they wear? To me, that's chav and chav's not cool.

Alaric, Somerset



THE 2006 NME COOL LIST – SEE NO EVIL, HEAR NO EVIL, SPEAK NO EVIL

Why oh why could I not see MY HERO David Grohl not in the Cool List? He is surely the coolest rock star ever to walk the land. Please consider putting him back in the Cool List next year, or I will cry all the way home. Maggie, London

You'll be pleased to hear that I was casually flicking through your Cool List, agreeing with most of it then, to my HORROR, I saw that Liam Gallagher is number two. What planet are you on? He's a dick.

Tom Knowles, Cambridge

Where were The Subways in your Cool List this year, you mad nutjobs? I was shocked to see that neither Billy, Josh or EVEN Charlotte were in it. Tsk tsk. The Subways are the coolest guys since the invention of home refrigeration and are just as damn hot live!

Cool? Hot? Make your mind up – BP

"Alex Turner is an icon. Modest, smart, good-looking, working class and British. Very cool"

THE NME AWARDS TOUR - I GOT BLISTERS ON MAH FINGERS

I want to thank my lovely boyfriend who fixed my dialling finger after your NME Awards Tour sold out in record time AGAIN this year. You know what? He put a sticky plaster over my bloody finger after it started to hurt so much after a solid morning of dialling – only to finally get through and be told that the tour had sold out. Why do you insist on making these gigs so hard to get to, NME? We wait weeks to hear about it and as soon as the tour is announced it's all over.

Peeved, Norfoll

MEG WHITE HOT?

Whether Meg White is hot or not is a debate that has raged long and hard among my friends. I fall into the 'Meg White is UTTERLY GORGEOUS' category, although I must confess I was unsure for some time. The evidence was well and truly beaten home when I witnessed The White Stripes' electrifying performance at Glastonbury this year, where her vibrant display outshone the fact she may not be the best drummer ever to grace the stage. For further evidence of Meg's majestic beauty check out the cover story in *NME* a few weeks ago.

James, Leed

Meg White looks a bit like a hamster. But she was in the audience at the Dirty Water Club last week and she looked gorgeous! Lovely in every way. And I normally fancy boys!

Did you ask, "Is it alright to fancy Meg White?". Are you fucking kidding? The female form is God's finest creation, and Meg is without a doubt the most gracious and beautiful of them all, apart from maybe

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YOSHIKO, TOKYO

"Here's me and Maximo Park's Paul Smit at a café close before their show in Ebisu, Tokyo. He was so cute and stylish."



EVE, BIRMINGHAN

"Stalked **Test Icicles** last week. Met **Rory** on Monday in Birmingham then went to the LSE gig on Thursday. Nice guys! Especially Rory!"



JOHN AND RAQUEL, ESSEX

"This is us with **Matt Monkey** after their gig in LA. We tried to get a shot with Chunky Monkey, but he was off looking for pies."



SAM F, CROYDON

"Me and Martin from Nine Black Alps on the set of the *suuuper* snazzy video for 'Just Friends'. All hail to the beard!"



my wife. The question will now be is it alright to NOT fancy Meg White? Everyone already does - even the girls.

If you could form an orderly queue behind just about every other male member of the NME staff, you'll get your chance to woo Meg-BP

FRANZSTILL ÜBER -FANTASTICH!

Last night I saw Franz Ferdinand, Editors and The Rakes at Newcastle Arena. It was the best £27 I've ever spent. Alan from The Rakes is just the most gorgeous thing in the world and I don't care what anyone says. They totally outshone the other bands playing. Franz. What can I say? They make the music girls dance to. Amazing.

Just been to see Franz Ferdinand-über-fantastich! But what I really want to say is, boy, that guy from The Rakes, what a fucking dancer. Why isn't he Number One in your Cool List? Such amazing dancing has never been seen before.

Calm down please girls. Apparently Alan will be appearing as the lead in the cartoon stage version of Billy Elliot - Lord Of The Prance from February 30 - BP

RECORDS OF THE YEAR

I'm surprised by your choice of Bloc Party as Album Of The Year. I was sure you'd go for Kaiser Chiefs or even jump on Antony And The Johnsons' bandwagon. I had never even considered it in my Top Ten. You've certainly make me think, and where I was shocked at first, I've listened to it again and you're right. It is album of the year. Thank you for showing me the light, NME.

Why the hell weren't the MIGHTY Oasis higher than number 24 in your records f the Year list? What were you on? Surely 'Don't Believe The Truth' marked a return to their rock'n'roll form? They were the best band

in the world again this year and there's no doubting it. Come on NME, you put Liam second in the Cool List but you didn't get yer brains in gear for the records of the Year, instead you went with that "bunch of students", Bloc Party.

We're sorry we didn't put the Oasis record any higher in the list. We're really really sorry. Listen, it was about as good as it was, and no better. Surely the fact that it was Number 24 in the ALBUMS OF THE YEAR is good enough for you? - BP

FREEBASS

I live in an upstairs flat and my neighbours, who are a lady in her 60s downstairs and a sour-faced couple in their late teens next door, seriously object to Peter Hook's

"I never considered Bloc Party to be in my Top Ten albums of the year"

thundering bass-playing when New Order are rumbling at Elliott Towers to the point where no-one talks to me apart from to complain. But last Saturday night, imagine my horror as aforementioned trout-faced kid was squealing along to bloody Take That songs with her musically inept mates. I didn't complain, but my revenge on this odious dullard will be completed, as today I read on NME.COM that Hooky has drafted in Mani to form a bass-playing supergroup called Freebass!

Clayton Elliott, via email from rthumberland

Clayton, your sweet revenge is yours to



I wish that Pete would dump Kate himself, and get back to Carl because he is his true love. Carl, by the way is SEX. Pure sex in a leather jacket.

Sorry? - BP

Why is Jacko not on the Cool List? He always used to be but for some reason vou've kept him off it this year. reth, Dublii

What about 'Music Shark Bait', where all the buffoons of the music world are lowered into a pool of sharks and challenged to remain there for as long as possible without crying. Look out, James Blunt, Kelly Clarkson, Daniel Powter etc - we might just forget the protective cage when it's your turn.

David. Somerset

Yeah - and what if you filled the pool with jelly and it became a big moat circling around the production offices of any one of the TV talent shows and then you forced Louis Walsh and that to walk the plank? Then we could all have a snigger - BP

I never see any letters saying how attractive Paul Smith is. Am I the only person who thinks so? Usually all I read in NME are silly remarks about his hair. Don't people realise that the barnet is not as important as the person underneath?



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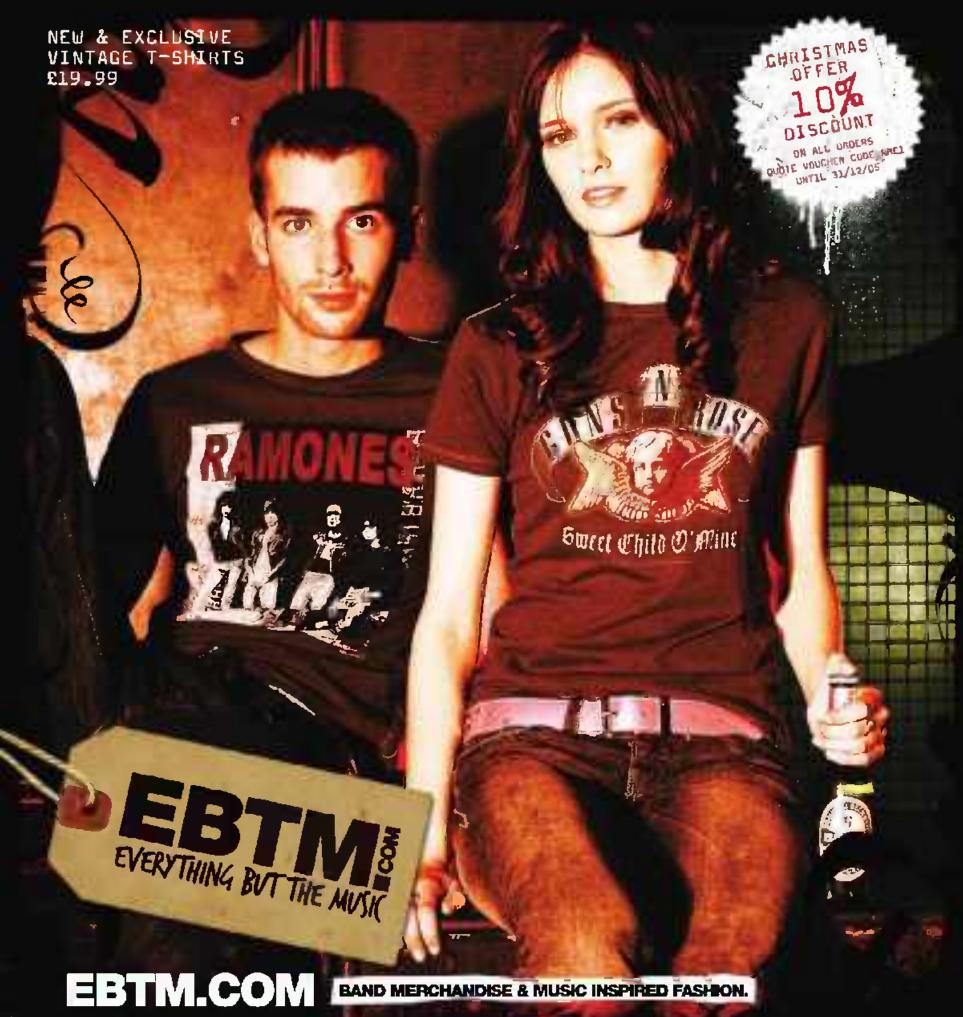


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EDITED BY: **BEN PERREAU** **Awards past and to** vote this year

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The ShockWaves NME Awards 2006: Be excited. Be very excited





enthusiastic lead singer Edward Larrikin. "We view the stage as a party. It's a gang thing and anyone can join in."

"My mum even plays spoons sometimes!" adds guitarist Micko Larkin. "Anyone can play, you've just got to feel it."

Witness a Larrikin Love gig and it's hard not to feel it. Taking the frenetic, scuzzpunk template left behind by bands like The Libertines, they bury it in ska, Irish folk, jazz, calypso and anything else that peppers their musical jumble sale of influences. This bold vision was born when Edward realised forming a band would be the best way to air his creative tendencies. He started jamming

"Anyone can join in onstage. My mum even plays spoons sometimes!" Micko

with Micko and Irish-born Coz - who both rock a fine line in gypsy chic (Coz: "Everything I own is a hand-me-down, it's the Irish way.") - until the line-up was made complete when Edward met Alfie at a car boot sale.

Before he knew it, Alfie had been "tricked" into joining the gang and they began rehearsing in Twickenham - a place that's

"Originally I wanted to be a published writer," says Edward. "I'm reading a biography of Rimbaud and it's amazing - he was the most incredible bastard of all time.'

It's these literary pretensions, combined with the ability to set indie disco dancefloors alight, which has led to the obligatory Libertines comparisons being bandied about.

Edward: "Personally, I think Peter is a great writer and 'Up The Bracket' had some great poems on it. But that Babyshambles record is pretty flat in terms of the literary thing. The lyrics are dull. As a singer, he's the last person I'd compare myself to. Besides, we're not just some London band. I'm sick of London.'

And, having just signed to Warners, with an album in the pipeline set to eliminate all preconceptions, such pigeonholing is surely set to be a thing of the past. After all, theirs is a sound capable of sparking a veritable firework display within your brain.

"Musically, we'll try anything," grins Micko. "And if it doesn't work, we'll do it anyway."

"We've got a four-part opera on the go," adds Edward, gabbling frantically. "It starts as this Dexys-

style operatic show tune then drops into a Pink Floyd thing, then drops again into a grimey, Timbaland drumbeat, only with an Irish influence but with a mad, all-over-theplace element, only with lyrics you can relate to, steeped in literature and...

Phew! Like we said at the start, Larrikin Love are more than just a band... Tim Jonze





e Rakes V Lethal B

22 Grand Job White Label Pow! The indie/grime crossover is go as Lethal B ram raids The Rakes and legs it with the swag. Brrap!

The Brothers Butch Kay, Why? Trikont

From the forthcoming Jon Savagecurated compilation 'Queer Noises', this is a vintage piece of campery from the homosexual underground of the mid-1960s.

elle & Sebastian

The Life Pursuit Rough Trade Terminal twee-kids return with their tune-stuffed, sun-kissed sixth album, recorded in LA inbetween playing football with local resident Robbie

Super Heartbeats Kitchenware Ace, ace, ace, punk pop from Tynemouth, Newcastle. The A-side is good, but the B-side, 'We Are Solution', is SKILLO.

Flame Island

Funked-up Snow Patrol? Gospelfriendly Radiohead? There's odd things at work within the Dubliners second album, but befuddlingly, it all works rather well.

The Rumble Strips

Motorcycle Transgressive A Geno-era Dexys-style paean to having a hot engine humming between your legs.

Quintron and Miss Pussycat

Swamp Tech Transsolar New Orleans keyboard legend returns, with a little help from his girlfriend. He plays like his hands are on fire, she dresses like a cat. Genius, obviously.

Divine Madness EMI All the hits! All the tunes! More than enough impetus to provoke mass NME office nutty boy dancing!

AND THE THAMESBEAT GOES ON...

Four more guitar-wielding London oddballs

Mystery Jets Eel Pie Island residents and pastoral-prog minstrels, Mystery Jets boast two drummers, kitchen utensil percussion, and a basketful of infectious pop hooks, not to mention NME Cool List alumnus Henry Harrison (aka, singer Blaine's dad). www.mysteryjets.com

Good ShoesDespite hailing from Morden, a blemish on the arse-end of the Northern Line, cheeky upstarts Good Shoes mash XTC and Maximo Park into tasty bundles of yummy, heartswelling indie pop fluff. www.goodshoes.co.uk

Airhammer

They dress like undertakers and musically they veer between dancehall and '80s metal. If you don't love 'em already, then you're a dick. www.airhammer. co.uk

Jamie T

Rambling, shambolic tales of wasted youth from London's latest urban poet and acoustic bass slapping boho-boy. www.jamie-t.com









The Decemberists -'The Kingdom Of Spain'

These weird folkies have made 'The Kingdom Of Spain' available exclusively. But be warned, repeated listens may make you want to grow a beard and strum a zither violently.

► System Of A Down - 'Hypnotize'

You can get an exclusive version of the scary, hairy progmetallers' album with extra track 'Psycho' (recorded live at London's Astoria) plus a digital booklet.

► Lady Sovereign - 'Hoody' (Earlyman remix)

Bovvered? You should be, especially by this exclusive remix of Sov's most excellent collab with Sarf London splicers Basement Jaxx.

▶ Liars - 'It Fit When I Was A Kid'

Enjoy a pre-release airing of dancey-punk screamers' new single, a corker of a tune if there ever was one.



AND FINALLY...

Type in **The White Stripes** into your search engine and you'll come up with a couple of comedy oddities (no, not 'Passive Manipulation'). The highlight of which is 'Diary Of The White Stripes' by the hilariously-named Flaming Bulldogs which ponders the interesting question of being a sell-out or not. Bet you can't wait for Mr White's reply...

PODCASTS

Don't just download tracks, get a whole radio show! Here's where to get your hands on the peppiest, perkiest podcasts on iTunes



INDIE103.1 PODCASTS

Highlights include an interview with Joey, Dee Dee, Tommy, Marky, Johnny (that's punk legends Ramones to you and me) who chat about CBGBs, three-chord magic and gabba gabba hey! Plus Sex Pistols' Steve Jones' rebellious jukebox.



LOOKOUT RECORDS PODCAST

San Francisco's punkiest label and home to the likes of The Donnas and Operation Ivy. Tune in for their podcasts and expect sessions from **Green Day**, and mates of Clap Your Hands Say Yeah, Hockey Nights.



FREE RADIO SUB POP

From the label that brought you Nirvana, Queens Of The Stone Age's Mark Lanegan and Hot Hot Heat enjoy the likes of hotly-tipped Wolf Parade and Rogue Wave.



KCRW'S MUSIC EXCHANGE

Santa Monica's favourite station, home to the Morning Feels Eclectic show featuring the likes of Sons And Daughters and the Bloc Party-shaped pioneers Gang Of Four. Past shows have featured the likes of **Arctic Monkeys** and Coldplay.

BE AN IPOD DJ

Revealed: the place to learn to become an MP3J and mix with the best of 'em



Trust the fashionistas of east London to come up with a trend before anyone else. The club/bar Dream Bags Jaguar Shoes has been holding "noWax" nights. "What wax?" you may well cry, well, put simply, it's a night with a DJ but no turntables, punishing beats but no glowsticks, mash-ups with no messy wiring. You only need two heavily-loaded iPods and voilá you're an, erm, MP3J. The night has been known to have some 8 Mile-style rap battles with people taking turns in mixing three songs in a back-to-back competition. With the scene spreading internationally to New York, Tokyo and San Francisco surely it's only a matter of time before the likes of Fatboy Slim head straight to the dole queue? See www.nowax.co.uk for details of the next night near you.

NEW MUSIC IN YOUR TOWN

BRISTOL



hink of the Bristol music scene and most think of trip-hop and the noodlings of Massive Attack, Tricky,
Portishead et al. Nowadays though, the kids are getting their kicks down the local sweaty indie disco, soaking up underground obscurities at Stutter (www.club-stutter.co.uk) and revelling at new night on the block Malice (www.clubmalice.com). We might have had to wait a decade, but Bristol is definitely back.

Kid Carpet (www.kidcarpet.co.uk) Down with trip-hop, long live shit-hop! An old favourite on the Bristol live circuit, Carpet bashes out 90-second pop classics with little more than a Fisher Price guitar and some unexpected samples. Ace!

(www.theplaywrights.co.uk) Recent support slots with the likes of The Organ and The Rogers Sisters have lifted The Playwrights' intelligent postpunk songwriting into the spotlight, and they're well worth checking out.



Termites

(www.terminaltermites.co.uk) These art-rockers make psychedelic death-pop louder than the volume on your deaf nan's telly. If that's not a good enough reason to catch them, they also rock the musical saw!

(www.buckytheband.com) Genius, shouty lyrics and a love of alt. country make this lo-fi two-piece one of the most endearing bands in town. Hyperactive, shambolic and very, very funny. Naomi Williams

Naomi is co-founder of Tape, Bristol's electro-punk hipster club



Wear we go! NME's James Jam reports from the indie rockin' north east. Tyne for heroes!

ou'd be proper silly to deny there's been some chuffin' ace music breaking out of the north east of England these last few years. Sunderland gave us The Futureheads and The Golden Virgins.

Newcastle retorted with Maximo Park and yourcodenameis:milo. It's a region awash with innovation. *Drunk* with inspiration. Alive with giddy, brave, boundless ambition. And there's more to come!

Mackem scenesters would argue that Sunderland swoon-pop trio Field Music kick-started the whole shabang. And, in the instrument-swapping Brewis brothers, they sport a founding member of The Futureheads (Peter), as well as the man at the mixing desk for early singles by The 'Heads, Maximo Park, and a clutch of other NE greats (David). They're a group *much* revered in Tyne & Wear indie rock folklore. Ably abetted by the keyboard-pounding

skills of childhood friend Andrew Moore.

the Brewises are feverish in their desire to pen the perfect pop song. Their utterly, grand self-titled Memphis Industriesreleased debut contains many examples, and their fusion of the brainy (XTC), the emotive (Love), and the raunchy (Dexy's), is a dizzy, heart-bursting, frickin' awesome listen. Fittingly, both The Futureheads and Maximo Park honour their debts to the brothers by parading them as main support on their forthcoming 2006 tours. www.field-music.co.uk has the gen.

A little bit up the road in Newcastle dwell Kubichek!, four ierk-punk Geordie bastards who sound like Fugazi violently mauling Primal Scream songs, or Joy Division penning frothy-mouthed missives that jerk like the stump of a freshly decapitated cadaver. New single 'Taxi' is out December 12 on Fantastic Plastic, and they've already warmed stages for the likes of The Rakes, Towers Of London and - yup! The Futureheads. Got a ticket for Editors' tour? They're those tykes tearing up the stage before them each night. And, there's

a website at www.kubichek.co.uk. Go look! Then, a bit further down the road, over the bridge, round the roundabout and up the street marked 'Devo meets Weezer Avenue', dwell Chester-Le-Street pop alchemists Catweasels (www. thecatweasels.com). They're the sound of pure audio action, the (real) Sonic Youth, and their empowering punk-pop is making the cool kids in the NE say things like, "git canny, like!" in excitable, broad Geordie. You'll be hearing others as this year becomes next. As we said before, there's much more to come.

Kubichek!: Very! Excitable! Young! Chaps!

BAND NEWS



► Hotly-tipped rockers lls hit London for a clutch of dates in support of their download-only debutrelease 'Low Happening' on December 12. Catch 'em on Wednesday December 7 at 93 Feet East or Wednesday December 14 at Metro. And, while you're at it, totter off to www.thehowlingbells.com

► Darlington rawk grrrls (and boy!) We Start Fires release a double A single on ace indie label Marquis Cha Cha (www.marquis chacha.co.uk) on January 2, entitled 'Hot Metal/Hip Shake'. They also supplement Nine Black Alps' homecoming show at The Ritz, Manchester on December 13. For more details head to www.westartfires.co.uk.

► Wonk-pop weirdos Polytechnic have blagged the opening slot on this month's Doves tour. The pairing sees them play in Reading, Bath, Manchester, London, Llandudno, Newcastle, and the Isle of Man, before culminating in an end-of-tour party at Glasgow Barrowlands on December 15. Get to www.weare polytechnic.com for more info.



The Dancefloor Is **A Scary Place** www.myspace.com/ chopchopbeartouch

Sketchy guitars, mumbly brokenhearted missives, tin-pot drumming yeah, we love that shit. And, while it's unlikely they'll set the world

on fire, over three songs of snotty grot-rock, they do

a damn good job of igniting our heart.

Two-track demo

www.themortimer.co.uk By rights, we'd merely be irked by these retro rockers and their flat-pack Beatles-bynumbers pop rock. But, given that the guitarist sees fit to layer ALL their songs with the kind of pedestrianpaced fret-wanking even doctorate of said discipline Noel Gallagher would reject as excessive, well, we passionately LOATHE



The Hype Foundat Time For Waiting

www.myspace.com/ thehypefoundation The word 'glacial' was invented for Newcastle space (rock) cadets The Hype Foundation, and lead track 'Time For Waiting' ticks all the right boxes, sounding as it does like Sigur Rós with their amps cranked up to 11. They even have a song called, 'Reykjavik'. A brilliant, brilliant song, and one which sounds tailor-made for the invention of not words, but ears.

Are you in a band? Are you any good? Send your demos to Radar, NME, 25th Floor, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS



Saturday, November 19 Help She Can't Swim: yet to master the 'all facing in the direction of the audience' aspect of live performance

hey say you should never judge a book by its cover, and you can't help thinking that Brighton's Help She Can't Swim are a case in point. They look so indie and cutie-pie, you might expect them to star in an Enid Blyton-esque tale of mischievous dogs and happy endings, but their hardcore racket is more akin to an Bret Easton Ellis-style delve and rummage into the dark and twisted world of dirty sex and heartbreak. From the 90-second Bis-on-the-therapist's-couch opener of 'Fermez La Bouche', through to recent single 'Cut The Biography', it's all bitter, shouty-screamy boy/girl vocal attacks and distressed guitars, a band with a few bones to pick and more issues than WHSmith. "No-one cares about your DJ night", they shriek in a flurry of pogoing fury as their sprightly tantrum continues, firing shots at everyone from exes to indie poseurs to the music press. Bring it on kids; just mind you don't snag that cardie. **Tim Chester**

Lorraine The Water Rats, London ▶ Wednesday, November 16 PLUMMUSICCOM Lorraine singer Ole spies someone side of stage making off with his band's rider

few months ago, Norwegian electrorockers Lorraine ditched their drummer - excellent idea, drummers are twats - and sat in

their Oslo homebase hammering Depeche Mode, Cure and Duran Duran records until some incredible songs appeared. And appear they duly did!

We're happy to report then, that Lorraine are no longer the pleasant indie makeweights of vore. Tonight. not only do they look fantastic (singer Ole is about eight-foot tall.

guitarist Anders never smiles, both have phenomenal hair), but Paal's programming spews forth great shafts of head-ringing melody ('Saved' sports Coldplay-style tunes - minus the crushing tedium - while 'Beautiful Thing' throbs with fourto-the-floor bombast). Elsewhere, the lyrics speak of an inner life that's vet to have an ounce of the romance, mystery and wonder bled out of it.

Lorraine's playcount on my iTunes is so far ahead of everyone else it's ridiculous. Tonight I finally realised why. **Rob Fitzpatrick**

Two Gallants ▶ ULU, London ▶ Thursday, November 17

t's inevitable that San Francisco duo Two Gallants will have to endure comparisons with Jack and Meg, a product of their shared indifference to the lo-frequency rumble of the bass guitar. But rest assured, Two Gallants are something totally different. Something incendiary. Something vital.

Tonight we wince as matted whips of flailing hair and splinters of drumstick fly across the stage from sticksman Tyson Vogel, and the dynamic duo's early-20th century indebted muddy-puddle rhythm and booze holds our undivided attention.

Abrasive new single 'Las Cruces Jail' marks a furious lament from the mind of a young man contemplating the gallows at sun-up, while 'Steady Rollin' leaves a lump in our throat and tears in our eyes.

By set closer 'Nothing to You' (which, incidentally, makes us want to fire a few rounds around somebody's feet to see them dance a hot-footed jig), it's clear that this raggedly-righteous duo are in a league all of their own. Jack and who, exactly? Ben Perreau





At the end of Oasis' biggest year ever, the Godfather of indie holds court exclusively



fidgety Noel Gallagher stares down at a copy of NME on the coffee table. He sees Jack White in demonic

gentleman mode staring up at him. "What's he playing at, dressing like fucking Zorro on doughnuts? What the fuck's that about?!'

This is quite funny, because all morning, Noel's publicist has been anxious that this won't be a repeat of NME's previous encounter with Oasis, wherein they declared war on pretty much every band who weren't themselves or The Stands. The idea this time is that we have gathered in a north London photo studio to dissect the year that Oasis got their groove back, to the tune of 1.9 million copies of 'Don't Believe The Truth', now officially recognised by, er. Guinness as their best for a decade, two consecutive Number Ones, a string of inspirational shows and, in V. the best festival set. they've ever, ever played. Noel is to be on his best behaviour, and NME's part of the deal is that we're not going to provoke him into slagging off all the people that he and Liam missed out last time. So Liam has been kept in his cage, and Chairman Noel has been wheeled out to pass judgement on their annus mirabilis. Thing is, where this family are concerned, you don't even have to try...

That's not very nice, Noel. "Jack White, right, has just done a song for Coca-Cola. End of. He ceases to be in the club. And he looks like Zorro on doughnuts." You don't believe in adverts?

"No, no... I don't mean this to sound like me being a fucking cunt, but I don't need the money. If I did, I'd be fucking doing it, but he's supposed to stand for something else, isn't he? He's supposed to be the poster boy for the alternative way of thinking. Coca-Cola, man. Fucking hell! And alright, you wanna spread your message of peace and love, but do us all a

fucking favour. I'm not having that, that's fucking wrong. Particularly Coca-Cola, it's like doing a fucking gig for McDonald's."

Ladies and gentlemen, Noel Gallagher is, officially, still back.

The world's first glimpse of the new, souped-up Oasis came on May 10, when they tore the roof off the London Astoria. Noel hadn't even wanted comeback single 'Lyla' to go on the album, he thought it was "a bit throwaway", but he took the advice of everybody else in the band camp that it would go on to be their seventh Number One. When its big, stupid glam riffs thundered in, all those doubts evaporated in a heartbeat.

"I remember talking to my roadie saying, 'Go and get us a beer from

the dressing room, 'cos I can't handle this straight', and I had to get pissed onstage," recalls Noel. "And then the big stadium gigs were just bananas.

Have these been some of the best of your career?

'The whole touring thing has been pretty spectacular this time. I think a lot of it has to do with the fact that Andy and Gem have now been in the band for five years, and before they would maybe stand in the wings when we were arguing and stuff. They'll take sides now, which makes it more of a band and less like Liam and Noel.

Who takes whose side?

"Andy's quite objective and he kind of sees sense. Gem, bless his fucking cotton socks, just gets on that fence and he'll sit there and he'll hold on to it for fucking dear life.'

Together, the Gallaghers are the two renegade warriors of all sex, death and destruction, obviously, but without his sparring partner, and away from the madness of the road, Chairman Noel is disarmingly normal. He's also visibly uncomfortable at having to do a photoshoot without him: "If this is

what it's like being a solo artist then fuck that, I'd rather be in a band." He says that the time when he would ever have done a solo record has passed, but he's still visibly enjoying his status as high statesman of our rock'n'roll nation. And after years of cracking on he was thick, he's settled comfortably into his role as rock's wisest man, and father to the new generation of oiks... and like anybody who's fought in a war, he's not about to let any bunch of loser kids fuck up the world he battled to create. After last time, is there anybody

you'd like to make peace with? "Razorlight I've got a lot of time for, I think Johnny Borrell's got it. He's the only one out of the lot of

them - him and Kasabian - who's

"Jack White is no longer in the club. And he looks like Zorro on doughnuts"

trying to make it big. Everyone else is trying to make it either medium or small. The Kaisers have got... to me, if they don't win Best Newcomer at the Brits or whatever it is, it's a fucking travesty because it's been their year. They've got two or three great tunes, but I don't think they're anything spectacular. It'll be interesting to see where they go next. But the rest of them. fucking shite man, I make no bones about it. I don't get Bloc Party. A band that constantly describes good music as 'interesting', that sickens me to my fucking stomach. And for a band that's constantly describing good music as interesting... music's not supposed to be interesting! Music's supposed to make you want to fight or fuck! What the fuck's all that about? Dictionaries are interesting, The History Channel, that's interesting. Music's supposed to be from the bollocks to the heart."

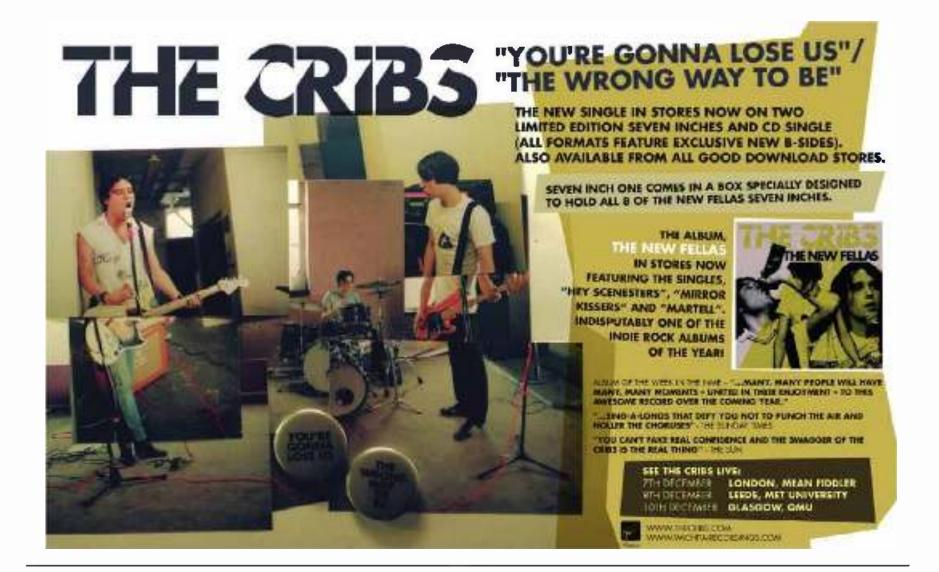
At the end of last year, with Oasis

absent and Arcadia a smoking ruin, the rupture in the fabric of the space-rock time-continuum was threatening to suck every living thing into a paradox, leaving all of humanity in a vacuum with only Franz Ferdinand to listen to forever and ever and ever. Then, much like the Mitchells in EastEnders, the Gallagher brothers came back to save it. Only to discover in deepest Yorkshire, the proper successors to Oasis' no-nonsense rock genius were making the first stirrings of glorious revolution. And when King Grump told Radio 1 he thought they had a "shit name", it looked like Noel was lining up to sort aaahht Arctic Monkeys in much the same way that him and his brother did with Right Said Fred and Kele Okereke. But no... "I haven't heard a crotchet of their music. I've seen the video on the telly, the one that looks like it was shot in 1978 and I wasn't taking much notice of the tune, but I'm 'avin' them because they're northern. They're from Sheffield which is one of the best cities in this fucking country and they're young and they sing in their own accents. I even like the title, 'I Bet You Look Good On The Dancefloor'. I haven't heard their album if indeed they've got an album or anything like that."

They have what you had, too - it's normal kids that love it, not just scenesters.

"I don't know how true this is, but I read that they've done it on the internet. I don't know whether that's a good thing or a bad thing, and I don't know whether it's a good thing for them that their first single is Number One in the charts. But fuck me, they look like 11-year-olds, and their fans are obviously the same age. You can't beat that, it's the same as the Libs, man. I went to see The Libertines one night at the Forum - I go and see a lot of groups - but I've not felt this since we walked onstage in '94 and it was the most vitally important thing in everybody's life in the room. It mattered to the band, it mattered to the fans, it mattered to the





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"I'M OBSESSED BY THE SECOND WORLD WAR"



Ten things you never knew about Oasis



Gem Archer is a talented artist. "He's really good at drawing cartoons and stuff, and if you ever go round his house - which is highly unlikely - he's got an amazing painting of The Rolling Stones."

Neither Noel or Liam can swim or drive. "Yet we've both got swimming pools, and both got cars.'

Noel is ambidextrous. "I'm both-handed, I can play guitar with both hands, but I'm actually lefthanded. That's a fucking shit factoid, isn't it?"

Andy Bell is prone to spending "time on his own in the woods just outside of Stockholm". "That's what he told me one night anyway," says Noel. "We asked him how he wrote 'Turn Up The Sun'. He said he wrote it when he was tripping in the woods."

Every single member of Oasis, Zak included, is a fantastic drummer. "That's why we've always had a problem with drummers. because we can always. always play better than the guy that's on the drumstool. I get a lot of stick for this but I'm probably the best drummer in the group. Liam is loud as fuck he's like John Bonham - Andy's a bit fiddly like Reni, and Gem's got his own kind of late '70s, early '80s punk sound."

"Liam has a 6 very, very unhealthy obsession with SpongeBob Squarepants."

Since they jacked in the drugs, the most rock'n'roll activity on the Oasis bus is busting out the game Frustration for cash. "It can get fucking rowdy, I've seen dressing rooms in absolute uproar with a double six. It's a completely random game. There's no skill involved at all, so whoever the gods of the dice deem to be the winner is who wins.'

Over 12 years, Oasis have regularly changed band personnel, but the crew has remained exactly the same. "We've got the same soundman, the same fucking roadies, the same girls in the office, the same management, from the very beginning. That's fucking bizarre, man."



Drummer Zak Starkey's dad was in The Beatles. "Nobody knows that, do they?"

Whenever he's at home on his own, all Noel does is watch films about the Second World War. "I can't help but watch it, and I don't know why. An American said to me one afternoon, 'Do you think maybe you were a soldier in a previous life?' Fuck off! I have an unhealthy obsession with the Second World War, don't know why. My missus thinks it's fucking weird."



press, it mattered to the photographers and everybody." The Arctics have also kind of ewritten the rules of the music industry forever and the labels are all shitting it.

"I was reading a thing about this internet thing and people go on websites and chat to each other and say, 'Have you heard such and such a band?' and that awful word: you Google it. Which is kind of the death knell for buying records, innit? When you get to a certain age, there is no greater thrill than walking into a fucking record shop and standing in the queue with two people who are buying a Howard Jones single and you've got a Smiths 12-inch behind them. That, for a fact, makes you twice as cool as anybody else in that record shop."

But another thing happened to Oasis this year. While the Monkeys began weaving their own Gallagherflavoured web, Team Gallagher was already anointing its successors. The mutual love-in between Oasis and Kasabian this year has been quite staggering, a genuine alliance defined by qualities of heroic northern-ness and an athletic disregard for the limits of their own sanity. Kasabian get to learn from the people who wrote the book on riot rock; Oasis get revitalised by the boundless, green exuberance of their young apprentices. NME witnessed quite how these two bands feed off each other when they played back to back in Benicassim, Spain, shortly before they spent five weeks on tour together in the States. Oasis have lent them their studio to mix their second album, and there's whispers of a collaboration, possibly on a cover of lost psychedelic classic 'The Four Horsemen' by Aphrodite's Child. "I think they're on the cusp now," gushes Noel. "I don't know what the fuck it's about, but they went down amazingly in America. We were still last out of the dressing room every night, which I was very proud of because I'm, like, 10 years older than the rest of them."

"Whenever he gets too Oh yes; the Oasis baton was always going to be too big for just one band to shoulder. Where Alex T has patented a gruff, stoic form of iconoclasm, in Tom Meighan, Planet Rock has found its most brilliantly crackers Godhead since young William Gallagher. "This is the fucking truth," says Noel, "because he's mental. He is mental. And when he gets too mad they have to take him to a toy shop to calm him down. Have you heard this one? He's got Attention Deficit Disorder, I don't know whether I'm supposed to say that. He can hold 20 conversations at the same time. He was in our dressing room one afternoon, and he's drinking a pint of vodka and Red Bull, and this is before the soundcheck, and in literally one sentence he's going 'HAVE YOU GOT ANY FUCKING RED BULL?', then he's 'LOOK AT THAT LIGHTER! FUCKING HELL, FOUR FOR A POUND! D'YOU SMOKE MARLBORO LIGHTS? BIRDS' FAGS!'. And apparently whenever he gets like that and he's too mad, they have to take him to Toys 'R' Us. The last time I actually laid eyes on him, he

was in our hotel, he was in Liam's room, but management were shitting themselves. Somebody turned up, put him in a cab to take him to Toys 'R' Us in Times Square, calm him down, because of all the flashing lights and he plays with the toys and then he's alright. That's fucking genius, man!"

Most bands have groupies... "Well, y'know, most people go to rehab! Hamleys, let's have yer! Get in there for half an hour! But those five weeks with them were monumental. I'll never forget them." There's something of a young Liam

mad they have to take

him to Toys 'R' Us to

calm him down" No

couldn't do it because they're doing their album, although we fucking hammered them on that tour. So I said let's get Razorlight 'cos I'd seen them and they'll smash our crowd to bits." But it hasn't been easy for Noel to have these oiks on his stage, or indeed his crowd. "This year it took me about six or seven gigs to get past the fact that everybody who was on the first three rows was 10, 15 years younger than I am. You stand there and think, 'fuck'." It seems the rise of the Monkeys has had a more profound effect on Noel than he first thought. "I think kids

being of an equal age where all their references come from the same culture and whatever is vital. And not just for the fucking charts, but for things like *NME*, and for the gig-going kids who don't go to Wembley Arena to see cocksuckers fucking flogging their records. When you go and see a band because they've had one single out and they

can sell out a venue that's 1,000 people... if that fucking dies it's completely fucked." And you know what? Last time we checked it was fine. Sorry, Fat Zorro. Your printed face must just have been lying at the wrong place at the wrong time. Because otherwise, it seems Noel Gallagher got out of bed on the Ш right side this year.

in Tom, isn't there? "Yeah... Tom's got his own thing, it's kind of Ian Curtis, it's mad dancing that doesn't even look... Liam stands stock still, Tom's completely opposite, he's all limbs, he's like a fucking mad banshee almost, and he works himself up into such a state, and I just think he's

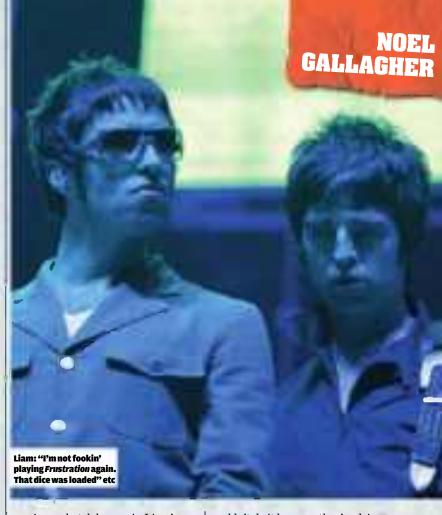
in it. He's like Ian Curtis, man. You see those pictures of Ian Curtis doing his mad dancing and he's gone. It's like that. Both mentally ill!

Now, all that stands between Oasis and a trouble-free year is their one last hurrah - this week's Noise And Confusion 'indoor urban music event' or whatever in Cardiff. "To get us and Foo Fighters itself would have been great, but to get Razorlight and The Coral, it's all shaping up to be special. Kasabian

TURN TO PAGE 65 FOR **FREE OASIS STUFF**



Watch exclusive concert footage from the DVD accompanying Oasis' new single 'Let There Be Love' at NME.COM now.





JOHN LENNON IS SHOT DEAD

The world's greatest-ever rock star is tragically gunned down

13th December, 1980 New Musical Express - Page 3

MUSICA





A RAD TIME IN MEW YORK

NEWS DEREK JOHNSON

THRILLS CYNTHIA ROSE

Doorman: "Do you know what you've done?"

Chapman: "I've shot John Lannon."

JOHN LENNON MURDERED



the One leaves Romewell Hospital comformed by mount company hase travid Gullen

JOHN LENNON gave his last autograph in New York on Monday night.

In exchange, Mark David Chapman, 25, white and Hawaiian, thanked him with five .38 calibre bullets to the upper torso, inflicting seven wounds and severing a major artery.

The suspect, who had been in New York for two weeks, had been stalking Lennon for days outside the Dakota apartments on 72nd Street, Central Park West.

Lennan had epont the evening with Yoks and producer Jack Douglas at the Record Plant studio, and departed at 10.30 pm with the intention of getting something to ear before going back to the When John and Yoko

returned home in a limousine, they got out and walked through the countyand of the building, where the essallent stopped the couple for an autograph, London signed a place of paper. anti Chapman fired. Lannon stoggered up some steps and fell line. the hotel's kiosk,

The doorman, in disbuilef, agrect Chapman: "Do you know what you've done?"

Chapman's raply was: "I shot John Lennon.

The attack took place at about 10.50 pm New York New York report by JOE STEVENS

time. Chapman made no attempt to secape. He threw his gun down, and was grabbed by the deorman and a passer-by while Yoke, understandably distraught. chilched Landon's body screaming: "He's been shot? Someone help? Someone help!

One of the Lannorm' police, and a passing patrol car agriced to find Lonnon lying face down in the apartment-block office. As they took Lennon to hospital, Yoko cracled him in the back sent, imploring the pollop to hurry, and repeating, "Fall mait iso t rue. Tail me ha's going so

be affright "
On arrival at Roosevelt Haspital, 16 streets from the scene of the crime, frantic all ampts were made to save Longon by the amergency surgeons, with marrive blood transmisions and resuse tation afformation to heart, but to no aveil graph was dead on arrival

The first bullet had torn major atteries, couning him to bleed to death. When told by the doctors that he was dead, Yoke laft the haseket for an unknown destination Continues over



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WALLS AND RIDGES

The last interdered BY MAX BELL

TO CELEBRATE the recent success of his oldead' mudla wan Fantasy' and hit single '(Just Like) Starting Over', John Lennon had consented to give a selection of Interviews with both the printed and broadcasting media.

in the last few weeks John and his wile Yoke Diso had spaken to Newsweek, Playboy Ifm publication in the New Year, 1991) and, in an article shout real estate. to Esquire magnetina.

Last Saturday Lenson gave Anny Problem of SHC Radio Gue what, it transpired, seas als final interdese

On Yourday marning Radio Constant a previous of this interview which is now

being Incorporated into a tribute series to the late Depth without will you surfy in the New Year.

Peobles and produce Faul Williams upon to the Lebrore for were three house in New Year's Fifthers upon to the Lebrore for were three house in New Year's Fifthers with the Jeak with the Federal with the Jeak with the Product were in many sensitify to get he the list inches and so the Jeak Williams and when the federal was conducted.

According to Peobles, Lancon nemitted to be in a profits and sensitify at each fee was "and the profit of the Peobles of the Peobles are life was in "added Peobles."

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security guard called Mark Chapman made his way to the Dakota building, New York to get an autograph from John Lennon. After receiving one, he pumped five bullets into the arms, chest and legs of the world's most famous pop star. It was a tragedy, not just for rock'n'roll, but also because Lennon seemed more content with his life than ever. After the birth of his second son, Sean, the ex-Beatle had taken five years off to be a dad. He'd recently had a hit comeback album ('Double Fantasy') and single ('(Just Like) Startin' Over'). This calm was echoed in his final interview, given to BBC Radio 1 on the Saturday before his death. In a relaxed mood, he played down past rivalries with Paul McCartney, revealed his love for Noel Coward and enthused about New York. "I can go right out of this door now and go in a restaurant. Do you know how great that is? People come up and ask for autographs, but they won't bug you... they'll just say, 'Hi' or 'I like your records'." These quotes proved to be agonisingly poignant.

On the left is how NME covered the story the week it happened.



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WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?



December 1980

Having been cremated a fortnight previously, John Lennon tops the UK Singles Chart with 'Imagine'. The song also reaches Number Three in the chart in December

January 1981

More from-beyond-the-grave chart success as the reissued Woman' reaches Number One in the UK.



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January 1984

Release of 'Milk And Honey' album. culled from the sessions which produced 1980's 'Double Fantasy'.

January 1988

Yoko Ono hands over unreleased Lennon recordings to US radio

station Z107. The station broadcasts a show called 'The Lost Lennon Tapes' for four years afterwards and includes snippets of Lennon dialogue.



LP: John Lennon/ (Capitol) a harrowingly

Plastic Ono Band Inspired by primal scream therapy, it's candid and personal set - but with some cracking tunes.



Book: The Lives Of John Lennon **Albert Goldman** Compellingly trashy biog which suggests a more confused and sordid side to the Lennon personality.



The War Flawed 1967 antiwar comedy starring Lennon. Although virtually plotless, fans will still find it worth watching.

DVD: How I Won



THE GO! TEAM



THUNDER , LIGHTHING , STRIKE

NOTHING CAN STOP THE GO! TEAM," 一 THE GUARDIAN 米米本米

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ime was, rock DVDs were a bit of a con - a few bits of concert footage cobbled together to make a quick bulge in Santa's sack and an even quicker buck. But this year, Green Day and Sam Bayer have raised the bar with the cinematic Bullet In A Bible chronicle of the Milton Keynes mega-gigs. They're not the only ones, although the old rule still kind of applies to Muse's Absolution Tour, a few extra live tracks from London, Los Angeles and San Diego bolted onto their iconic Glastonbury set from last year. So, it might sting a little that we don't get close-ups of blood pouring from Matt Bellamy's mouth but seeing as Glasto was the best festival show NME has ever seen, we'll let them off. If you don't like silly extras and just want to rock, this is the only DVD you'll need.

Better value is Franz Ferdinand's A clip from Absolution... offering. A programme of live highlights (including a spleenrupturing version of 'Take Me Out' at T In The Park), two full shows from London and San Francisco and a serviceable enough Tour De Franz documentary are fleshed out with hidden 'Easter egg' segments of (admittedly scrappy) footage of early shows at the Glasgow School Of Art (although no blowjobs at the Transmission parties). There's plenty going on, but not as much care has gone into the

cinematography as on Muse or Green Day's efforts, and the feeling of this being a definitive document is dulled by there being just two songs from the second album.

...and a bit of Enjoyment

Kaiser Chiefs don't even have a second album yet, but that doesn't stop their Enjoyment (geddit?) package being the pick of the bunch by a long chalk. This has been their year, and there's barely a scene missed. Two full shows from Leeds and San Francisco are in the extras segment, but the main attraction is the 90-minute longform movie, packed with live tracks, all the videos, and cameos from Roger Daltrey, The Cribs, Damon Albarn, Mark Lamarr and, er, Steve Wright. Clips of the band as seven-year-olds and pensioners

feature in a documentary charting Ricky's descent into country solo hell, Simon Rix's secluded life as a gardener who thinks he's a romantic poet and Peanut's serene dotage in California as well as the last known sighting of reclusive guitarist Whitey, in 2008.

It won't convert the people who are concerned that the Chiefs' relentless chirpiness is undermining their music. But it's the only one of this week's bunch to pack the same imaginative punch as Bullet In A Bible and also the only one to have the band's fingerprints all over it. Love and good times radiate from every frame of Enjoyment, but more than anything, it's a fitting reminder of what a breath of fresh air Kaiser Chiefs have been this year.

It also offers the second (and hopefully last) chance you'll get this year to get your very own NME journo in your Christmas stocking (the first being some demented hack who outwitted security to get onstage for the climax of Live8). Be afraid. **Dan Martin**

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f you told your buddies you'd just been playing music from the must-have new groups, and enjoying games from the comfort of your mobile phone, they'd probably think you'd had a bit of a flutter on The NME Cool List 2005 and blown it all on some state-of-the-art gadgetry.

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ALBUMS

The Soundtrack Of Our Lives

A Present From The Past (Warners)



Swedish B-sides far better than Oasis. Discuss

There's 37 songs on 'A Present From The Past', a double-CD collection of B-sides and rarities from the nineyear career of trippy Swedish 'should-havebeens' The Soundtrack Of Our Lives. A lot of you may be thinking,

"Shit, that's a mouthful". Yeah, and a lot of you don't deserve ears, you ungrateful, undeserving, *unadventurous* plebs.

TSOOL songs are works of grand ambition and psychedelic wonder. Consider the likes of 'Hang Ten' and the sublime 'Side Effects'. These are songs constantly striving for new emotional territories to explore. Thus, more is good, no? It's testament to their brilliance that celebrity TSOOL fans Oasis have a career total of 26 good songs, 11 songs less than exist on this - A BLOODY B-SIDES ALBUM! Is it any good you ask? Aw, you do the maths. **James Jam**

Aidan Smith

Fancy Barrel (Analogue Catalogue)



Whimiscal Manc troubador's cracking debut

Up until now, the Salford suburb of Eccles is best known for giving its name to a currant-dotted cake with the consistency of flaky concrete. Aidan Smith may just be its next big thing. A librarian by trade,

his gentle, acoustic-based homespun philosophy and laconic Manc wit unsurprisingly call to mind his mate Damon Gough, aka Badly Drawn Boy. There's a hint of 'Abbey Road'-era Beatles on the accordion'n'brass-backed 'The Cuckold' while 'Everytime I Lean I Fall Asleep' shows that Smith can do James Taylor-ish acoustic love songs too. The oddball, tea-fixated 'Jam Will Suffice', however, will have you wondering if Smith has a dog called Gromit and invents rabbit-catching devices for fun. Whatever the truth, 'Fancy Barrel' is a right little cracker. **Stephen Worthy**



Cash back

Retrospective of country giant comes close to fitting it all in



Johnny Cash The Legend

The idea behind this collection sounds almost like a pub argument

rather than a serious proposition: can you produce a tracklisting for a single CD which can accurately and fairly sum up Johnny Cash's five-decade career? No earlier Cash best-of has attempted such a feat, choosing instead to focus on the best known period of his life, but this collection tries harder - and nearly pulls it off. There's 'Cry Cry Cry' from his early Sun Records days and a fair slice of his imperial 'Ring Of Fire' phase at Columbia, right up to 'Hurt', the Nine Inch Nails cover which conclusively proved the continuum between raw country and heavy rock. A couple of bum choices let things down - the woeful duet with U2, 'The Wanderer', is presumably here only to move a few extra copies and takes space that could have been put to better use showcasing, say, the work he did with his wife June Carter Cash. And the lack of 'Five Feet High And Rising' is a disappointment. But trying to condense 50 years into 70-odd minutes is no easy task, and mostly 'The Legend' does it well. It's nowhere near all the Cash you need, but it's a near-perfect overview. Simon Haves Budgen

Jeffrey & Jack Lewis City & Eastern Songs

A more polished effort from the Big Apple's best-kept secret

(Rough Trade)

NYC's never exactly lacked eccentric singer-songwriters, but all, from Lou Reed up to Adam Green, would struggle to outboho Jeffrey Lewis. Recorded with brother Jack, his first 'proper' album follows scores of self-recorded cassettes released since '97, and is a set steeped in the spirit of the Lower East Side. The likes of 'Time Machine' exhibit Velvets-style fuzz, while the speedfreak ramblings of 'Williamsburg

Will Oldham Horror' show just what makes this comic-book obsessive so unique. "It's getting hard to tell if this artist's life is benefiting me", he sings.

Stick with it, young fellow – we're with you all the way.

Hamish MacBain

Jeffrey (left) and Jack Lewis: "A camera! Quick, get your kook on!"

Gris Gris

For The Season (Birdman)



Sick music for sick times

For fans of black light, joss sticks and the year 1967, San Francisco psychedelians Gris Gris' second album will come as a breath of fragrant-smoked air. 'For The Season' is

the kind of record that those mid-'60s garage bands made after they'd come back from their tour of duty in Vietnam having had their brain chemistry altered forever by all the LSD and napalm fumes. It's a disorientatingly great mess of free-jazz, space-rock and voodoo swamp music, with the drunken waltz of 'Medication #4' being a particular standout. The fact that the album was recorded in a log cabin in the woods in Texas only adds to the *Blair Witch*-style sense of lost-in-a-forest mental collapse. *Chariton Pollard*

Son Of Dork

Welcome To Loserville (Mercury)



If Blink-182 came from Surrey... A few years back there was a sitcom, Welcome Back Kotter, in which a group of clean-cut American 20-somethings pretended to be punky drop-out teenagers, and it's

hard to lose the feeling that this might have been the inspiration for James Bourne's post-Busted project. Except, of course, his gang of sweathogs are having to take it a step further by pretending to be American as well as faking the teenage angst. It's all done exquisitely well and with careful attention to detail, like a chromium-plated Blink-182, but it feels hollow – as if a Channel 4 sketch show had created a parody of US teen safe-punk but forgotten the punchlines. **Simon Hayes Budgen**

Various Satisfaction: Covers And Cookies Of The Stones (Harmless)



Mick'n'Keef get funked up Despite - or perhaps because of - stealing most of their ideas from black blues artists, The Rolling Stones were always a popular choice of cover material for soul and funk acts in the '60s

and '70s. Tacky cover art that wouldn't look out of place in your local BP garage notwithstanding, this superb compilation gathers together some lesser known reworkings, from the fried funk of The Meters' 'Honky Tonk Women' to the soulful strut of Wilmer & The Dukes' 'I'm Free'. Highlights are misogynist Mick's 'Under My Thumb' and 'Bitch', the former in a northern soul style by Wayne Gibson, the latter a jazz-tastic instrumental featuring guitar from then-Stone Mick Taylor.

Nathaniel Cramp

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Whole lotta Love

Pinpointing the moment when genius turns into madness



LOVE Trilogy (WEA)

s a rule one of the albums in nearly every box-set can safely be redeployed as a handy compact mirror or bird scarer, depending on your tastes. Here it'll either be the raw proto-garage rock of the debut self-titled album from 1966 (but you'd be fool to dispense with a record that features 'Little Red Book'), or more likely 'Da Capo' from the following year, not because of the successful attempt to smooth together the band's folky roots with a sunshine-bleached Latin feel but because of what was the B-side of the album - the one-track psychedelic splurge of 'Revelation'.

It's the third album, 1967's 'Forever Changes', which is the masterpiece, though. Written by guitarist Brian MacLean, opener 'Alone Again Or' is perhaps the most straightforward of all the band's work - a heartbreaking little tale of unrequited devotion washed smooth by psychedelic West Coast guitar waves. From then on in, group leader Arthur Lee takes over the songwriting (save for 'Old Man') and the record seldom puts a foot wrong. Having a track called 'Bummer In The Summer' doesn't look quite such a timeless move four decades down the line, and while starting 'Live & Let Live' with the words "Oh, the snot has caked against my pants" may make for a striking image, it's not exactly pleasant. It's a tribute to Lee's ability to dance on the wobbliest of fine lines between inspired madness and "sitting in a bus shelter drinking vinegar" madness that he's able to pull it off and even make it seem like the most natural thing in the world to share. By the making



Love blend together west coast psyche, flamenco, rock and folk all within a dreamlike netherworld

of 'Forever Changes', Love's blending of West Coast psyche, flamenco, rock and folk was so effective in creating a dreamlike netherworld that Lee's "Did he just say that?" lyrics are given a twisted context where they make perfect sense; when on 'A House Is Not A Motel' he tells you to check your bathwater, as it's turned into

blood mixed with mud, you find yourself going "Mmm", not calling a plumber.

The last couple of rounds of Love rereleases have added extra tracks to the albums, but with this box-set the decision has been taken to pare the recordings back down to the original listings. And, as the whole thing clocks in for under a tenner, it's a wise choice - there's little to be gained from having multiple versions of 'Seven And Seven Is' and when you've got 'Forever Changes' to explore, it's likely much of the extra material would end up unplayed.

Arthur Lee was convinced while making 'Forever Changes' that he was going to die. It's great that he didn't, but it would have been a hell of a bunch of last words to leave behind. Simon Haves Budgen





Curtain Call (Interscope) 'His best songs still have the power to disconcert, and set a standard that all rock stars will struggle to



If You're Feeling Sinister Live At **London Barbican** 25/09/05 (Sonv BMG)

"Looking back has never been so sweet."



greatest pop-punk pantomime you'll ever see."

Babyshambles Down In Albion

(Rough Trade) "There's a 10 out of 10 album that's been thrown away here; as it is, it's the best demo you'll hear all year."



Johnny Cash

(The Legend Of Johnny Cash)

Aidan Smith(Fancy Barrel)

Johnny Cash

(The Legend Of Johnny Cash)

Son Of Dork (Welcome To Loserville)

Gris Gris

(For The Season) The Meters

(Satisfaction: Covers And Cookies Of The Stones)

Johnny Cash

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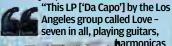
Aidan Smith (Fancy Barrel)

Gris Gris (For The Season)

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WHAT NIME Sim

February 25, 1967





harmonicas €tc, with a lead singer really pounds out pulsating rhythms." len Evens



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"I'm lovin' it!"

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te get the drum



think it's justified

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Merry Cribsmas!

'Cribs for Xmas Number One!' posits delusional hack

THE CRIBS



You're Gonna Lose Us

Oh my good Lord and the sweet baby Jesus too. Single Of The Year, hands down, no questions, thank you and goodnight. So spiky that if you touch it your fingers will come

away bloody; so brilliantly tousled and insouciantly cool that it would make Serge Gainsbourg come over all shy and bashful, and with a truly magnificent shout-along chorus ("When I'm drunk and being an asshole/That don't mean I've got no class though/Why can't we have something going on?") that seems almost purpose-assembled for end-ofyear party scrums and bellowing into the face of someone from accounts that you're pretending to like. With just a little luck and the gentle coaxing of Radio 1, there's actually no reason why this shouldn't be one of the most unlikely Christmas Number Ones since, well, Gary Jules. It's that good, the perfect stumbling-home song for our newly around-the-clock World Of Pub. There's absolutely no way that 'The Wrong Way To Be' can ever hope to match its topside, but it does OK, thundering along agreeably in a Fall-on-steroids kind of way until the chorus provides us with yet more shoutalong jollies. But it's that brilliant A-side that's going to be the soundtrack as baubles gleam, office ties get tied around heads, tables full of vol-au-vents get sent flying, and all is peace and love in the world. PC



BRITISH SEA POWER/THE WURZELS



Country folk handle each others' produce

The Wurzels. One of Sea Power's pleasing qualities is their lack of nudge-wink irony, and so their take on 'I Am A Cider Drinker', is delivered in Christmas carol deadpan. On the flip, though, the old buggers get lashed up and turn BSP's debut single into a steaming slice of randy-as-a-mare music hall. "Oi'm so bloody stupid I can't even

THE STROKES



amazing this time!

Even the bleedin

flipsides are

(Rough Trade)

Drinker/

I Am A Cider

Remember Me

As The Libertines doffed their caps to grand old knees-up forefathers Chas & Dave, here BSP raise a foamy flagon

to the doyens of Scrumpy'n'Western, remember moiself!" cries one. Larks! LP
LIMITED 7-INCH OUT NOW

Hawaii (Rough Trade)



What with Hawaii

being the location of The Strokes exhaustion-induced near-implosion a couple of years back, we were half-expecting the

B-side to 'Juicebox' to be a "woe-is-me' throwaway affair, but no: some opening Johnny Marr-esque jangling soon gives way to their most joyous-sounding song since 'Someday', with Julian showing off his newfound falsetto and Albert and Nick trading solos like a late-'70s supergroup (except in better clothes, obviously). Already a feature of their live set, it's a good sign that tunes of this calibre are being tossed away as bonus tracks. We'd say that it bodes well for the new album, but then we've heard 'First Impressions Of Earth' and are thus already well aware of how ace it is. ES

THE LONG **BLONDES**



Separated By Motorways



then The Long Blondes are here to provide a little, um, detachment. Polished to under-produced perfection by uber-twiddle Paul Epworth, 'Separated' sees Kate Blonde hitching her way from despair to nowhere, sighing, "Two lonely girls go on the run" amidst the crackle of analogue. Yet this isn't the search for arcadia, instead it's, "Blue skies and pylons to Suffolk/A1/A14". A steely northern response to the romanticism of

'Albion'. PM IN THE SHOPS NOW





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EMINEM



When I'm Gone

(Interscope)

Wherein Marshall Mathers takes a break from gorging himself on prescription medication to drop another bit of twisted science

for all the fucked-up children of the world. The violin-laden 'When I'm Gone' finds Em torn between fans, family, and tearing shreds off himself, culminating in a showdown with daughter Hailie and passenger jets plummeting from the sky. Far from a Greatest Hits highlight, but in a career that could have ended in Cobainesque suicide or even a rain of bullets, 'When I'm Gone' is the sound of Eminem making peace with his career, with his multiple personas, with the Slim Shady whispering sadistically on his shoulder. But is this really the end? Could this really be the



great man's 'Curtain Call'? Well, what do you think? LP ON RADIO 1 NOW

TEMPOSHARK



Electro-scenesters

It's Better To **Have Loved** (Propaganda)

Twitchy, minimalist, determinedly hip - Temposhark should, on the surface of it,

et existential be the sort of self-consciously stylish band doomed to a lifetime playing the 3am slot at glamorous fashion mag parties. Yet if their debut single, the robo-stomp extravaganza 'Neon?' suggested an emotional depth not previously discernible from their wardrobe selections, 'It's Better To Have Loved' is more beguiling still, vocalist Rob Diament delivering lines like "How suddenly the world can change overnight" with a glammy ennui which brings to mind a carefree Gary Glitter pulling into Ho Chi Minh airport just the other week. It may take time, but you will be hanging their picture on your

wall someday. PM IN THE SHOPS MONDAY

PLASTIC POP!

SEMIFINALISTS



release. Unv

bile tie in

HARD-FI

Cash Machine (Atlantic)

Time to vent a little. Any band that colludes in the establishing of the mobile phone as a valid medium for the presentation of pop

music is beneath our contempt and should be boycotted immediately. Unfortunately, it therefore pains one to report that 'Cash Machine' is, as we all know by now, fantastic, a mini-masterpiece of satellitetown drama with a gigantic chorus and some corking handclaps, eerie Specials atmospheric flourishes thrown in and a gentle undertow of desperation, suggesting that the Fi really have "been there". Which is maybe why they were so quick to take the telecommunications dollar. Just a thought. **PC**

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Softie synth-pop with a dash of

Show The Way/ **Your Heart** (Regal Bear)

Film-school: for most, it's four years of immersing yourself in the experimental avant-garde, before settling down to

a dismal existence tweaking the camera aperture for shopping TV programmes on Channel 9,354. For Semifinalists, however, it was a path that led to the dark temptations of rock'n'roll! Or, at least, floaty, synth-splattered soundtrack space-pop boasting shooting-star synths, lip-quivering emotional crescendos and, particularly on 'Your Heart', a not-inconsiderable crush on Pet Shop Boys. A dainty little treasure, although if the very mention of the word "mellow" is enough to make your head turn around 360 degrees like that little girl in The Exorcist, perhaps not for you. LP

KYLIE



Non't be luring anyone down the . Vinogue chimney

(Parlophone Download) Apparently, we all

Santa Baby

love Kylie so much that the 'Minogue' is superfluous. Superfluity has clung to Kylie all her career - there's not a single TV

programme, film or song to which she put her name that could be considered in any way essential, nor will there ever be. She's like a pop Walnut Whip, fluffy, sugar-coated and of no nutritional value. This is Kylie doing the old standard beloved of female vocalists attempting a certain kittenishly coy 'hands-off!' eroticism, and she coos in the right places, arches her eyebrows throughout, and delivers all the sass and allure of an inflatable sex toy. Unfortunately, circumstances probably dictate that we are labelled churls - but this is a groaning Santa's sack of shit. Sorry, but it is. PC **AVAILABLE TO DOWNLOAD DECEMBER 25**

CLASSIC SINGLE OF THE WHEK

December 13, 1986



SHAKIN' STEVENS

Merry Christmas Everybody (Epic)

Yay! Yay! Yay! Yay! And a merry Xmas to you, Shakey! The siffest quiffed communist in Hitsville spits out a savagely-wicked witty parody of the Xmas record in the style that he has made his very own.

"Merry Xmas, everyone!" he sings and you can almost hear the "except you, Thatcher!" that is obviously his real message.

In a world where fads come and go, where boys dress up as girls and girls dress up like boys and all and sundry are being clever-clever about drugs and sex and such stuff, Shakey is like a rock, swept by the waves of time and fashion but never changing, never washed away.

The inside sleeve is a 'nativity calendar' of stunning bourgeois sentimentality until, that is, one opens up the windows. Out leaps Shakey from the steaming jungles of Nicaragua with an AK-47 fist-gripped and smoking. Shakey doing a moraleraising gig for starving Ethiopians. And you, you fool, really thought he'd sold out - ha!

Shakey is no punk traitor. Steven Wells



IN THE SHOPS OVER THE FESTIVE PERIOD

EDITORS



Welcome re-

Munich (Kitchenware)

Ouite how Tom Smith managed to crowbar his way into the Top 30 of NME's Cool List is a mystery, release. Unwelcome unless coolness nowadays is judged

on the smallness of one's shirts. For all their appearance of geography supply teachers, and the single least rock'n'roll name ever, they continue squeezing out galloping, '80s-tinged intelligent rock. 'Munich', with its stabbing and cartwheeling guitars, occasionally calls to mind Big Country or Tears For Fears, which is less terrible than you might think. A bit like Interpol at their most straightforward, but with a vocalist who doesn't sing like someone is pinching his nose shut. Munich, fact fans, is the capital of Belgium. I think. PC ON ITUNES AND OTHER MAJOR MUSIC

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BURNINGPILOT



Angular synth-pop

newbies turn out

butcher's choice

Two Words Two Syllables (Transgressive)

New blood from the label who brought vou The Subways and Mystery Jets. **Burningpilot boast** a name that evokes warm memories

of the Ramstein air disaster of 1988, and a B-side called 'Meat Product'. Good start, and 'Two Words Two Syllables' builds on it, sounding as it does something like a robotic Rakes with silicon skin and LED eye-sockets, covering Madness, in a dark, possibly dystopic future. This alone is great, but better still comes on the aforementioned B, where vocalist Channel 3 - yes, that is his name - barks "My meat/Is out of date/And I'm lead to believe you think meat product/Is great!" over rapier-sharp guitar lines and dotty oriental synth melodies. Fantastic stuff. LP

IN THE SHOPS MONDAY

DEPECHE MODE



Perv Pop Panzer

Division back on

manouevres

the inter band beef which saw Dave Gahan demand a little of the song scribbling action a mere twentyfive years into

A Pain That I'm

Used To (Mute)

Having survived

the Mode's stadium-straddling career, Martin Gore serves up a vicious reminder of who wears the leather trousers in the Es-sex hinterland with their hundredth consecutive hit (probably). A teutonic masterclass in verse-chorus efficiency, 'Pain' also comes with an added twist, poor Dave forced to acknowledge his lowly status in a new twist on the Modes' S&M obsession. "I don't see who I'm trying t<mark>o</mark> be instead of me/But the key is a question of control" he gasps. Basildon Bond-age has never sounded so deliciously tangled. PM ON VIRGINDIGITAL AND OTHER MAJOR MUSIC DOWNLOAD SERVICES NOW

'Talk' (Parlophone) **CD1:** Talk **2.** Sleeping Sun DVD: 1. Talk 2. Gravity 3. Speed of Sound (video) directed by Mark Romanek 4. Talk (video) directed by Anton Corbijn 5. Behind the scenes footage

from 'Talk' video shoot **7" 1.** Talk **2.** Gravity 'See The Day' (Polydor)

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2. 'Fairvtale Of New York

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Something Beautiful (at 12 am)' 2. 'The Best Is On The Outside' (live KCRW version)

'We Had Pleasure' (Moshi Moshi)

1. 'We Had Pleasure' 2.'The Entryway



CHART SHOW ON



THIS WEEK'S VIDEO TOP Arcade Fire Wake Up Arcade Fire singer Win Butler once entered a competition to win his own butler. He didn't. The Strokes Juicebox The Strokes' drummer Fab Moretti is "utterly addicted" to Scottish soft drink Irn Bru, and takes a bottle to every party he attends. The Futureheads **Area** The Futureheads recently had a "tantalisingly close" game of Trivial Pursuit backstage at Top Of The Pops, which they lost to Kanye West. 5 Cash Machine The band say they have "no idea" what the UK's most used cash machine is. **Guillemots Trains To Brazil** After last week's Garfield revelation, it's come to light that Guillemots singer Fyfe Hutchins owns every episode of the TV series on DVD. Queens Of The Stone Age Burn The Witch Ironically, Josh Homme is allergic to matches. If he touches them, his height drops by an inch for the day. Mystery Jets Alas Agnes 10 Mystery Jets want to start their own tabloid newspaper column called *Plane Speaking* should the band get really famous. Sigur Rós Hoppipolla When asked why this single was released, the band answered with a press release designed to be read only by specially trained puffins. Edito Munich Editors favourite German city is actually Frankfurt, due to the exceptional quality of mashed potatoes you can get there. Franz Ferdinand **Walk Away** Due to a recent real ale drinking spree on tour, Franz are considering calling their next LP 'You Could Have It So Much Bitter'.



Forward, Russia! **Director: Danny O'Connor** (www.documentuk.com)

This is the band's first video, and the basic idea was to capture them with all the live energy they put across. We wanted something with the frenetic quality of their gigs.

We shot it on high-definition format but wanted to have a Super-8 feel. We filmed it one cold day at the Cockpit in Leeds. Loads of the band's fans descended on the place after they put a call out on the web. They were great for the whole day and so were the band. We had them do around 20 run-throughs. Usually bands get jaded and start to give less and less, but they gave their all every time.

We got Howard Marks in to make a cameo. He's an old friend and lives in Leeds now. He was happy to play the caretaker role, sweeping up at the end. The band loved him. We're hoping to have a cameo in all their other videos, though probably not from Howard.

Considering the budget we were working with, I think we came up with something stylish that felt like an event, rather than just another gig.

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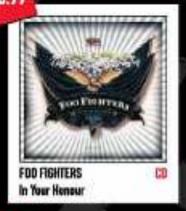
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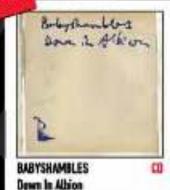
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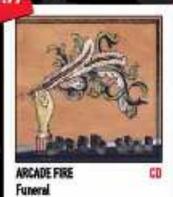
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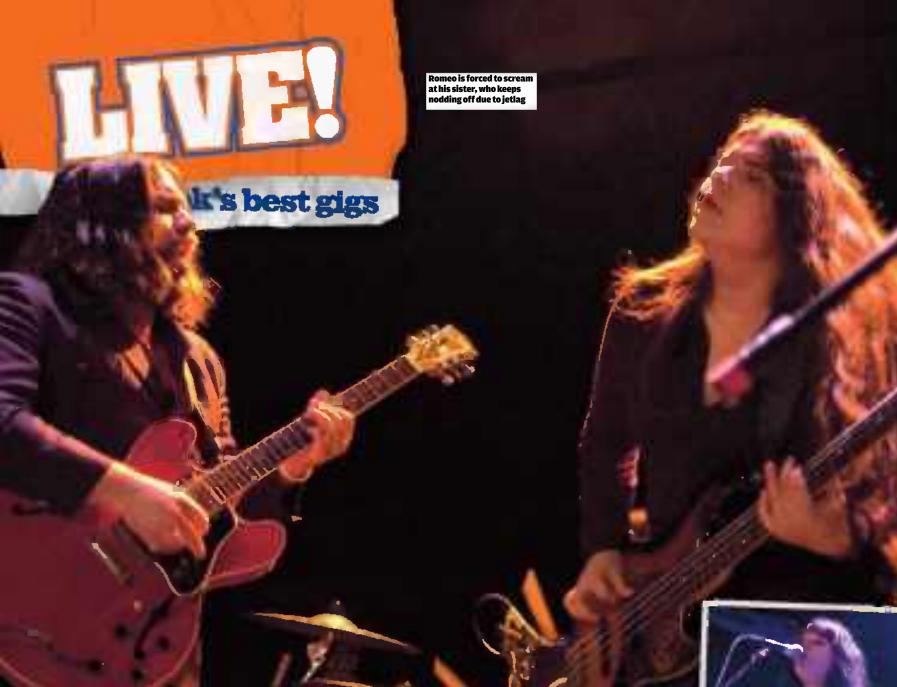
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The Magic Numbers

- Bowery Ballroom, New YorkMonday, November 28





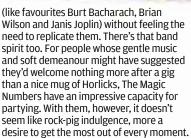
aving been acclaimed as the band of the summer, The Magic Numbers are now staking a claim to being the band of the winter. Outside, New

York is gearing up for Christmas - every taxi you climb into has carols playing and it's still only November. Inside, the atmosphere is equally festive. The Magic Numbers have just finished a tour supporting Bright Eyes and loads of Michele and Romeo Stodart's relatives are here (the family lived in New York in Romeo's teens). The Magic Numbers aren't well known in America, but from the minute they walk onstage and launch into 'Long Legs', their classic, creamy pop leaves the Bowery loved-up and spellbound.

What makes it even more charming is that the band are still visibly thrilled by the joyful effect they're having. Romeo grins so hard his eyes disappear when the audience clap along as one to 'Forever Lost', cheer the Numbers' great cover of Beyoncé's 'Crazy In Love' (as soft and intimate as hers was big and bombastic) or fall silent during 'I See You, You See Me'. Michele tosses her hair and throws shapes with her bass, Angela Gannon turns her hand to melodica and xylophone when she's not singing and drummer Sean keeps it all together. The band's musical togetherness is startling, as technically perfect as a studio recording but with a soul that only reveals itself onstage. And then there are the songs. Originally easy for the cynical to dismiss as twee, over the year they've grown into anthems.

'Love's A Game' now sounds like the Stax classic Noel Gallagher recently acclaimed it as, and 'Don't Give Up The Fight' manages to carry off wide-eyed, '70s-tinged pop where Hal and The Thrills somehow misfired. The reason why is somewhere in the total conviction all four Magic Numbers bring to the band, their bond as two sets of siblings, and crucially the fact that they have a healthy respect for the classics

The band are still visibly thrilled by the effect they're having



Angela: "Blimey, the building sure are tall 'round here'

> The Bowery Ballroom sees them communicating this spirit with total directness, without relying on ear-splitting dynamics or rock'n'roll clichés. (It's also great to see a band with two women in it - why is this still so rare in rock music as we approach 2006?) Tonight, The Magic Numbers left NYC feeling good, as warm and all-enveloping as a hug. Alex Needham



Britain's most nature-conscious band rock the most, er, cavernous venue of their career

hat's right, British
Sea Power are
playing in a cave.
Their knockers will no
doubt accuse them of
pretentiousness, but
what those tits fail
to appreciate is that BSP aspire to create
something different and that such ambition
should be celebrated. Admittedly, their
recent split single with The Wurzels wasn't

should be celebrated. Admittedly, their recent split single with The Wurzels wasn't even worth its novelty value, but it did get them in *The Sun*. Instead, let us rejoice as tonight British Sea Power do what they do best: play the most exciting gigs in the most unusual of places.

The first of their two sets consists of B-sides, beginning the show with an organ-filled waltz named 'Heavenly Waters'. Hamilton switches with Eamon, bass for keyboards, prompting a set of instrument swapsies, the peak of which comes during 'No Red Indian' when singer Yan proves himself a talented drummer, and drummer Wood proves that he's not only quite good on the bass but that he's fairly tall too. The tranquillity of the B-sides gives space to

contemplate this amazing venue: look up!

There's a shadow of Wood's drumming on the cave roof; there are steps in the ceiling rising out of the cave – that's why the sound isn't echoing! This first set finishes with 'True Adventures' and finds everyone back on their specialist instruments.

Following an energetic intermission by electro-rockers Morton Valence, BSP return to the stage with Yan now sporting a 1920s racing-driver outfit, complete with rather dashing knickerbockers. The serenity of the first set is destroyed as the ferocious 'Apologies To Insect Life' has us all silently pondering the possibility of a cave-in. From the crowd, a modified bomber jacket complete with BSP insignia lands by Hamilton which he puts on.

A bra lands by Noble and he does the same.

It's the most exciting of gigs in the most unusual of places

During 'Oh Larsen B', their ode to the recently disintegrated Antarctic ice shelf, snow machines shower the audience.

Just as the cymbal-shimmering prologue to the epic set-closer 'Lately' has calmed the cave after a stalagmighty 'Carrion', a sudden thud breaks the silence as Noble knocks his guitar on a mic stand while reaching down for some booze. His boyish charm wins through and despite this apparent intoxication plays a note-perfect set. When 'Lately' climaxes and Yan shouts, "Do you like my megalithic rock!?/ Do you like my prehistoric rock!?", never have these lyrics made more sense than here and now. Tonight, in a cave, in Cornwall, British Sea Power have, quite literally, put the rock back in rock'n'roll. **Peter Quinn**

WHAT YOU THOUGHT

"This was the most bizarre gig I have ever been to! But British Sea Power were amazing." Ross Miller, 18, Newquay







The Longcut

≻Cargo, London ≻Friday, November 25



Manc punkers send your hands to the lasers with their youthful energy

hese days, it seems to take about six months for fresh-faced young pop stars like Kaiser Chiefs to mutate into visibly scarred balls of exhaustion. Still, there can be few poor lambs out there who exert themselves for their rock dollar to the extent that Stuart Oglivie does. Tirelessly switching between delivering his shamanic vocals at the front of the stage to powering along his band's songs behind the drumkit whenever he's got a spare couple of minutes, it's a minor

that ever-elusive successful blend of rave and rock'n'roll. Right here, right now, The Longcut are one of the most exciting bands around. **Hamish MacBain**

NEXT GIGS **London** 333 Shoreditch (January 16)



WHAT YOU THOUGHT



"Great! I was dancing so much I thought I was going to have a heart attack! Gosh - I think I'd better go and have a sit down now." Ash, 23, London

It's a minor miracle that The Longcut's leader doesn't drop dead

miracle that The Longcut's leader doesn't drop dead after one song.

See, while it may have initially seemed like a bit of a novelty when they first registered on the radar at the start of the year, there's now no question that this Manchester trio's unorthodox dynamic plays a large part in making them one of the most unique and incendiary bands around. The likes of 'Last Act Of A Desperate Man' and debut single 'Transition' mutate from pulsating electronic drums and clanging Sonic Youth-style riffs into cacophonies of dancefloor noise lifted to the heavens by Oglivie's crashing snare, while the absence of between-song banter and a crowd that really is dancing like nobody's watching make this gig the closest thing there is to

Regina Spektor

►Lock 17, Camden, London ►Thursday, November 24



The piano-punishing goddess of New York antifolk moves in delirious ways

ithin seconds of Regina Spektor arriving onstage, two geeked-up indie boys have fainted, while a third stumbles blindly into a table, sending its contents flying. A concerned few check he's OK, but the majority tut at the disruption to their experience, their eyes fixed on the cherry-haired lady in the flouncy red sweater, hammering on her piano, charming the fuck out of the room. Make no mistake, there are people here tonight who would die for Regina Spektor.

And with good reason. On her third record 'Soviet Kitsch', out last year, the Russianborn, antifolk pal of The Strokes gave us a record that was as gloriously articulate a dissection of the human heart as we'd heard since chancing upon mum's dusty Carole King vinyl up in the loft. Next year sees the release of 'Mary Ann Meets The Grave Diggers And Other Short Stories', a handily compiled catch-up compilation. It'll not only justify your love, but frank, stamp, and seal the deal for keeps.

And so, as she seeps into new single 'Carbon Monoxide', the room literally sways to the tempo of her heartbeat.
Then, with a yearning, tear-tearing runthrough of 'Samson', each and every set of eyes in the room follows every tic and turn of her curious face. But it's the towering, tempestuous majesty of 'Us' that almost

breaks the floodgates. Two hundred and fifty hearts work as one for the time it takes to open, elate everyone, and conclude the song. She's that rarest breed of musician - existing for the sole purpose of communicating pure emotion. In the wake of such charming, expressive, spiritual songs as those brought forth tonight, she's mother, lover and prophet.

There are people here tonight who love Regina Spektor. If you're not already one of them, you soon will be. **James Jam**

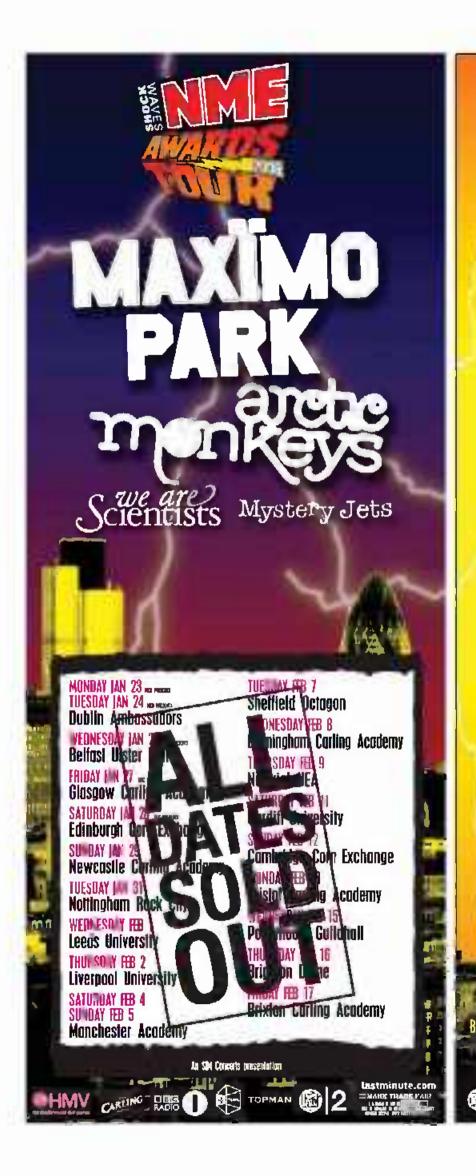
NEXT GIGS Regina Spektor tours the UK in February 2006

WHAT YOU THOUGHT



"She was fantastic tonight. Beautiful and amusing at the same time. It was really special." Sally, 21, London









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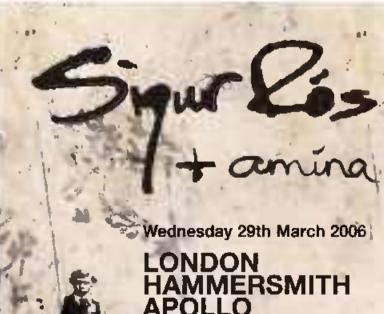


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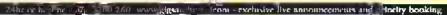
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ME ADS

I WANT TO SOUND LIKE...

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THE CRIBS

THE SOUND

Righteous, bloody and invigorating, The Cribs' Jarman brothers put the 'ow' into 'show'. "My guitar teacher would show me bits of Nirvana," says Ryan, who also closely studied Cobain's stage-trashing. "He showed me a power chord and that were it—I could play guitar."

THE KIT

"When I was growing up, the Orange factory was just down the road so I always wanted an amp like that. It sounds British and Llike that dry. middling sound that works great with an overdrive pedal." Rvan's guitar of choice is a '70s Fender Mustang that he found in perfect condition. Now it's totally fucked. "The neck's been snapped twice and it's covered in blood. It looks like a guitar with a nasty disease," he says admiringly. "Someone's tried stealing it, though. I'd stagedived into the audience and he took my guitar. I chased him and got it back though. If it had ended up in Cash Converters he would have got a beating, but he wanted it purely for sycophantic reasons, which just embarrassed me." While you'd need to hunt for a second-hand model like Ryan's, Fender have reissued the '69 Mustang, Kurt Cobain's favourite

IN THE STUDIO

"We did the album with Edwyn Collins and he's got so many amps and pedals that we could experiment with," Ryan enthuses. While they enjoyed their sessions recording 'The New Fellas', The Cribs were so itching to get back on the road that they put their phone numbers on the net, announcing they'd play anywhere for a crate of beer and petrol money.

ON STAG

Ryan spots s

taking off with his Ibanez

Tube Screamer. It'll end in

tears – and blood, no doubt

"On the NME Tour I broke my fretting hand, but I didn't want to cancel the rest of the dates so I carried on. Now I've got this weird lump whenever I make a fifth," says Ryan.

THE TECHNIQUE

"Honestly, that is the funniest thing anyone has ever said to me," Ryan cackles when we suggest he must be up on his music theory to come up with the nifty chord progressions in 'I'm Alright'. "People said I was shit at music college because I simply didn't know the names of chords... but I know more chords than them because I invented them, I've tried to unlearn a lot of stuff actually, because I don't want to be a twattish guitarist." To this end, Ryan keeps things simple. "There should only be two guitar sounds - clean and dirty. I do use an Ibanez Tube Screamer, but I just leave it on all the time.'

BEST TRICK

That Tube Screamer comes in handy when Ryan's coaxing out feedback.
"Turn everything on full - the amp and the gain especially - and scrape the guitar with a drumstick or a beer bottle. Don't tap the neck shyly - it defeats the whole object!"

ate of beef and petrol mone



Ibanez Tube Screamer, £79, www.guitaramp kevboard.com



'69 Mustang Reissue £355, www.instrument pro.co.uk Orange AD3OR, £849, www.music centraluk. com

NEXT WEEK: I WANT TO SOUND LIKE... NINE BLACK ALPS

Words by Jenny Knight from...



Winter Special out now

FORM A BAND

Join a gang or create your own

Drummers

NO ORDINARY DRUMMER WANT-ED, fresh type player needed for highly original 4 piece band, based in South West London, blues and soul based, with contemporary influences. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 961336

INDIE ROCK BAND, MANN FRIDAY, is looking for a drummer to join the bandwagon, we are actively looking for a record deal in London, drummer needs to have some recorded material, an affinity for powerful performance and be willing to go all the way. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 967706

HARD-HITTING DRUMMER WANT-ED, TO JOIN LONDON BASED, established guitarist and bassist, influences The Melvins, Black Flag, Sonic Youth, must be committed. Tel No: 09058 170 016 BOX Number: 217540

EXPERIENCED DRUMMER, LOOK-ING TO JOIN OR FORM A FUNKY ROCK BAND, retro style, influences Led Zeppelin, Deep Purple, Sex Pistols, The Jam, Stone Roses, Moby and Kaiser Chiefs. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 591611

DRUMMER REQUIRED FOR HEAVY ROCK ABBA TRIBUTE BAND, double pedal essential as well as experience, influences Judas Priest, Zakk Wilde, Maiden, Sabbath etc. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 935208

INVENTIVE, DYNAMIC DRUMMER WANTED BY LONDON BASED BAND, influences The Slips, Blondie, Modettes, The Duke Spirit. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 232173 ROCK BAND, LOOKING FOR DRUMMER, JUST COMPLETED A THIRTY DAY TOUR, WITH THE SUFFRAJETS, influences range from Led Zeppelin and Deep Purple, through to the likes of Guns 'n' Roses, Motley Crew, management and label interest already, gigs ready to go, once we are gig ready. Tel No: 09058 170 016 80X Number: 179963

HAMPSHIRE BASED, ROCK BAND, WITH PUNK EDGE, seeks a talented drummer, must be committed and have ambition to make it big. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 828579

BASSIST AND GUITARIST, SEEK QUALITY DRUMMER, IN SOUTH LONDON AREA, preferably 18-25, influences include Radiohead, Fugazi, Sonic Youth, own kit preferred. Tel No: 09058 170 016 BOX Number: 335412

DRUMMER WANTED, Fucking Diesel needs a new drummer. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 661520

DRUMMER/PERCUSSIONIST, ELECTRONIC NEEDED, FOR MONTHLY, GIGGING BAND, AGED 28-35, influences Pulp, Beck, Blur, Goldfrapp, Talking Heads, based in Manchester/London. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 926560

Guitarists

GUITARIST IN MANCHESTER LOOKING TO FORM A BAND that plays music such as Joy Division, Bright Eyes, The Cure and The Smiths. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 638217

GUITARIST SEEKS BAND INTO RADIOHEAD, Stone Roses, Led Zeppelin, Stones, White Stripes, Drake, Nirvana, Clash, Smiths, The Who, London based. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: GUITARIST WANTED FOR NOTTINGHAM BASED ROCK BAND, influences include Placebo, Pixies, Mogwai, Deftones, Black Rebel Motorcycle Club. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Rox Number: 173671

LEAD GUITARIST WANTED FOR EAST LONDON MELODIC INDIE POP BAND, influences Libertines, Beatles, Motown, Beach Boys, 18-22yrs. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 211352

GUITARIST WANTED FOR NEW BAND WITH MANAGEMENT AND MAJOR INTEREST, must be fully committed as touring and recording is involved, influences include The Clash, The Jam, The Cure and more, based in North East London. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 990650

GUITARIST URGENTLY WANTED TO JOIN FABULOUS BAND WITH MANAGEMENT, London based, gigs lined up, influences Bowie, Led Zeppelin, serious only please. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 883627

SECOND GUITARIST WANTED TO JOIN 3-PIECE ROCK BAND WITH INTEREST, influences Buzzcocks, Jam, Supergrass, Cure, Reading area. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 581520

GUITARIST, SEEKS BAND OR SINGER, into Radiohead, Zeppelin, Stone, Roses, White Stripes, Nick Drake, Nirvana, Smith, London based. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 478775

SINGER/SONGWRITER AND DRUMMER, SEEK BASS GUI-TARIST AND LEAD GUITARIST, TO FORM A BAND, influences The Who, Bolan, Weller, East London based, contact Pete. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 373849 CHARISMATIC AND ENERGETIC FEMALE-FRONTED BAND, LOOK-ING FOR COOL GUITARIST AND KEYS PLAYER. Melodic, sparse, edgy, atmospheric etc, playing style required, songs ready. Own studio. Tel No: 09058 170 016 BOX Number: 761481

Bassists

BASSIST WANTED FOR BRILLIANT GLASGOW ROCK AND ROLL BAND, must be committed, ambitious and look the part, Influences Zeppelin, Kasabian, Cream, Kings of Leon, INXS, no time wasters. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 289165

BASSIST WANTED FOR AN ALTER-NATIVE ROCK BAND, based in Sheffield, 20-30yrs old, experience and commitment are essential. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 573972

BASS PLAYER WANTED ASAP, influences U2, Oasis, Feeder, age; 19-27, based in London. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number:

BASS PLAYER WANTED FOR NEWLY FORMED LONDON BAND, influences The Jam, Razorlight, The Clash etc. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 496942

ROCK AND ROLL FREAK BASSIST WITH BVS, to complete creative and committed female trio, with forthcoming single release, album recording, tour and TV, influences, PJ Harvey, White Stripes, Queens of the Stone Age. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 328917

WHERE ARE YOU, bassist, Joe Burt, ex Dragons, Daphne and the Tender Spots, Black Sabbath, Sector 27, from Ree and Wendy. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 754138

BASSIST WITH SONGS, SEEKS VOCALIST, BAND, MUSICIANS ETC, for commercial punk, drum and bass type project, recording in January, Top of the Pops waits. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 309627

BASS PLAYER AND BRASS SEC-TION WANTED, Essex/London based, Tricky, Mercury Rev, Prodigy, Bowery Electric. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 981654

BIRMINGHAM, INDIE BAND, SEEKS COMMITTED BASS PLAYER, BIRMINGHAM, INDIE BAND, SEEKS COMMITTED BASS PLAYER, think Idlewild, Pavement, Ash, Graham Coxon, Wedding Present. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 671247

BASS PLAYER WANTED, FOR INDIE, ROCK, BLUES, GRUNGE INFLUENCED BAND, from Widness, with own rehearsal room, no timewasters. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 477324

GLASGOW ROCK BAND, ELMO, seeks a bass player, influences Muse and Dave Matthews band, serious players only. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 970109

Place a free advert on 0800 063 0008

DRUMMER WANTED TO COM-PLETE A FIVE-PIECE SOUTH LONDON BAND, WITH ORIGINAL MATERIAL, band being compared to Coldplay and Athletes, auditions taking place in November and December. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 999097

DRUMMER WANTED FOR LONDON BASED INDIE BAND WITH FORTHCOMING GIGS, influences The Kills, Beatles, Interpol, My Bloody Valentine. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 550325

ROCK BAND WITH RECORD LABEL INTEREST, looking for drummer/vocalist, for west London based band, influences Mars Volta, Zeppelin, Chilli Peppers. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 940453

CONGA PLAYER, PERCUSSIONIST WANTED FOR GLASGOW, ROCK 'N' ROLL BAND, influences Ian Brown, Primal Scream, The Stone, Roses and T Rex, you must look the bollocks. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 460269

CHARISMATIC AND ENERGETIC FEMALE FRONTED BAND looking for cool guitarist and keys player, melodic, edgy, atmospheric etc. playing style required, songs ready, own studio. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 424415

GUITARIST WITH ORIGINAL SONGS, seeks North West musicians to form indie rock band. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 922339

24YR OLD GUITARIST AVAILABLE, NEW TO THE LIVERPOOL AREA, seeks rock band in style of Muse, Smashing Pumpkins or Iron Maiden. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 614523

AWESOME FEMALE GUITARIST WANTED, FOR KICK ASS ROCK BAND, tour waiting, M25 area. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 315188

GUITARIST NEEDED FOR MELOD-IC, LONDON BASED, INDIE, POP BAND, serious management, name producer on board, major label interest, influences Thrills, Flaming Lips, Supergrass, Elbow, U2, backing vocals and keyboard skills a plus. Tel No: 09088 170 016 Box Number: 558371 GUITARIST WANTED BY BAND, WITH MANAGEMENT AND SINGLE RELEASE, influences Interpol, The Rapture, Sonic Youth, Bloc Party. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 435334

GUITARIST SEEKS BAND MEM-BERS FOR A NEW BAND, interested in regular gigging and management, rock, funk, indie, whatever - bring it all to the band and we will make our own sound. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 7484270

GUITARIST AND KEYS PLAYER NEEDED BY CHARISMATIC, energetic, female-fronted band, melodic, edgy, sparse, atmospheric with real feel, etc, playing style required, songs ready, own studio, London Brighton. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 689551

CREATIVE GUITARIST WANTED, TO JOIN THREE-PIECE, we listen to Mogwai, The Verve, The Cure, Joy Division, Smiths and The Sex Pistols, Reading area. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 218352

Turn the page for more adverts and instructions

FORM A BAND SERVICES

BASSIST NEEDED, FOR AN EMER-GETIC LONDON BASED, ROCK BAND, must be highly proficient, as well as an all round good guy or girl. Tel Mo: 09058 170 016 BOX Number; 809762

BASSIST WITH BACKING VOCALS REQUIRED FOR SIGNED BAND, based in Newport, South Wales, Influences Libertines, Pixies, Foa Fighters, Tel No. 09058 170 016 Box Number; 606592

BASSIST REQUIRED FOR GUITAR BASED BAND, writing original material, attitude and ambition, over technical ability, influences include Smiths, Cure, The Clash, Morth London based, Tel No. 09058 170 016 80x Number: SADAN

BASS PLAYER WANTED, FOR NEWLY FORMED LONDON BAND, influences Jurn, Razorlight, Flash etc. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Rursher: 840274

WANTED FEMALE BASS PLAYER, PREFERABLY WITH BACKING VOCALS, for South London based Jemale-Fronted, indie punk band. Tei No: 09058 170 016 80x Number: Ist662

Singers

FEMALE SINGER WITH UNIQUE VOICE AND LOOK WANTED, by London based, cutting edge, songwriter, producer, highly connected in the film and music industry, influences Depeche Mode, Bowle, Evanescence, Cure, Cardigans, Nine Inch Malis Garbage. Tel No. 99058 170 016

VIBRANT FEMALE, BALLSY, BABE, WOCALIST WANTED, by kick-ass, songeriling production company in London, for creditable rock project, influences Blondie, Green Day, Gwern, Say Pistols, End Zeppelin Tel No: 09058 170 D16 Box Number; 54LIS1

SINGER/SONGWRITER WITH MAN-AGENENT, seeks best young musicians on Merseyside for pop/rock project, original material, huge ambition required. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 872110.

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DRIMMER require ASAP 3 cool
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SINGER WANTED FOR NOTTINGHAM BASED ROCK BAND, Influences Include Placebo, Pixtes Mogwa), Deftones, Tel No: 09068 570 016 Box Number: 328567

FEMALE SINGER looking for electro pop rock band. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 805549

VOCALIST REQUIRED BY GUI-TARIST/TUNESMITH to co-write contemporary guitar based classic hits and form a group whose influences include The Smiths, T-Rex, Arcade Fire. South West Yorkshire area, preferable male 20-30. Tel No: 09058 LTG 016 Box Number: 334602

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23YR OLD FEMALE SINGER LOOK-ING FOR A KICK ARSE ROCK BAND, Influences Include Foo Fighters, Blondle, The Killers, South Wales area. Fel No: 09058 270 016 Box Number: 399098

EXCELLENT LONDON BASED, FEMALE SINGER, WITH BIG VONCE, seeks band, influences include Coloplay, Killers, Nick Drake, Jack Johnston, The Sales, Tel No. 09058 170 016 Box Number 502934

WANTED ENERGETIC AND ENTHUSIASTIC SINGER, TO COM-PLETE BAHD, playing original material, 60's, punk, Who, Indie influences, based in Taunton. Tel No. 09058 170 016 Rox Number: 788032

VERSATILE SINGER REQUIRED, FOR OXFORD BASED BAND BEING A CAVER, Into all sorts of progressive music. Yel No: 09058 170 015 Box Number: 934575

FEMALE VOICE, WANTED TO CAL-IBRATE ON COMMERCIAL DANCE TYPE PROJECT, recording in the new year. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 670815

INDIE, PUNK VOCALIST 20, LOCKING TO FORM BAND, influences include Green Day, The Clash and The Libertines, London area. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 974809

Songwriters

DOUBLE TO STANGER, musical The Beat es Bob 1, The Blues, The Blues, III pure must be serious and willing to create a band. Tel No. 09058 170 016 Box Number: 778497

Bands

POR BASS, DRUMS AND EARLY form dirty band with influences such as The Kijls and The Yeah Yeahs, Tel Not 09058 170 016 Box Number: 110674

FRONTMAN LOOKING FOR BASS, DRUMS AND GUITAR to front creative band with style and imagination, into T-Rex, Bowle. The Kills, Yeah Yeahs, Lundon based. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 223052

TALEKTED AND CHARISMATIC FEMALE

SINGER/SOMGWRITER/BASS PLAYER, seeks real band musiclans, influences Depeche Mode, tilz, Sloc Party, Cokiplay, London Based. Yel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 335274

LEAD GIRTARIST AND DRUMMER REQUIRED by vocalist and bass player to form band, mainly influ enced by The Smiths, plus other. Tel No: 09068 170 016 Box Number: 843167

WHERE ARE THE GIRLS IN ROCK? Come on, I need a bailey key boardist. If you can play rhythm guitar fantastic, for new wave rock'n'roll band who has no line to waste and needs the position to be filled now, so be prepared to work your arse off. Tel No. 09058 170 016 Sox Number: 838137

DRUMMER, BASS AND KEYBOARD REQUIRED FOR AUDITIONS, Influences Stones, 1971, Free, David Gray, Tat Not 09058 170 016 8ox Number: 501597 FUNKY FEMALE MUSICIANS, guitarist, bassist, double bassist, drummer, needed to complete hip hop, jazz band. Tel Mox 09058 170 OI6 Box Number: 629064

BASS PLAYER AND DRUMMER WANTED, TO COMPLETE LINE UP, London based, songs aiready written, commitment and dedication over ability. Tel Not 09058 \$70 016 800 Number: 868533

MOVICE SHYTHM GRITARIST SEEKS BASS, lead, drums, singer and songwriter, to form band, 18-24, into Libertines, Kinks, Jam, Small Faces, Burmsey area. Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Number: 394037

LOOKING FOR A GUITARIST AND DREMAMER, FOR A FEMALE-FRONTED, PLINK BAND, Influences Blink, Green Bay, Offspring, Bildni Kill, hard work ers only, London, Milton Keynes. Tel No: 09068 170 016 Box Number: 733144

GUITARIST AND ORIZIMER WANTED, FOR DORSET FOUR-PIECE, average age 19, influenced by The Killers, Green Day and Hardfly, Tel No: 09058 170 016 Box Humber: 481771

DRUMMER AND BASS PLAYER REQUIRED, FOR EDINBURGH BASED, POP ROCK BAND, many great songs are waiting to be played out by enthusiastic, line-minded souls. Tel Not 09058 170 OLG BOX Number: 772067

Keyboardists

EST/ LIVE BACKING SINGING ABILITY, INTIU BACKING SINGING ABILITY, Influences include Depoche Mode, Moloko, Goldfrapp, Lamb Masshw Attack, Affex Twin. Tel No: 09058 (70 016 Box Number: £26998

KEYBOARDIST AYAILABLE FROM SOUTH LOHDON BAND, influences are The Mars Yolta, Pink Floyd, Flobbing Gristie and Radiohead. Tel Mo: 09058 170 016 8cx Bumber: 941770

Misc

MANAGER WANTED, NEWLY
SIGNED TO IMPIE LABEL, young,
very pro-ective, hard working
rock band, loads of glaging experience with some TV and radio
exposure, needs an experienced
manager to go to the top. Tel No.
09058 170 016 Box Number:
20229

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FEMININE female, 23yrs, outgoing, WLTM someone similar, slim, size 10, brown hair, for clubbing and gigs, Liverpool area. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 435813 UPTIGHT, indie male 19. seeks weird and wonderful gig mates, around Newcastle and beyond. No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 898375

29YR old female, looking for new friends, enjoys gigs, pubs and having a good time, North London area. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 297805

FIVE hot indie princesses, likes going to gigs and having fun, WLTM some handsome princes. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number:

AVERAGE-LOOKING girl, with a GSOH and a good sense of style, loves going to pubs, bars and socialising with mates, but most of all going to gigs. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 754326

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SOUTH Coast male 35vrs looking Brighton, Portsmouth, Southampton, likes indie, dance, rock, pop. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 567264 INDIE chick, looking to meet

males/females, to go to gigs and clubs with, in London, Manchester, Birmingham or Liverpool areas. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 267678

ROCK chick, 5ft 5ins, with long dark hair, dark eyes, olive skin, likes the outdoors, gigs, pubs, sports, WLTM males or females 19 25. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 102027

DARK-EYED brunette, easygoing, 5ft 6ins, likes going to gigs, clubs and singing, WLTM someone. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number:

Friendship

BROWN-EYED female, with longish hair, quite tall, funny personality, sometimes shy, likes rock and goth-ic music. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 177300 STRAIGHT female, looking for other females, into live music, gigs, shopping, cinema and having a good time. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 637482 EASYGOING female, 21vrs, student,



GOOD looking female, long hair, slightly shy, with SOH, likes going to gigs, reading magazines and art. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 341184

LOOKING for new friends 30-39, to go to concerts, enjoys shopping going to cinema, pubs and clubs Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 404391

SPANISH/SWFDISH female dark eyes, curvy, outgoing personality, adventurous, into extreme sports. pubs, gigs, not clubs. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 596885 TALL, dark and handsome male.

very serious personality, likes writing, drawing, films, music and reading. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box

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CUDDLY, larger female, looking for friendship/romance with music lovers and lovers of the paranor mal. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 224252

JILL, likes walking in the park, along the beach, meals in and watching DVDs with somebody to cuddle up to. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 786652 25YRS, single, white female, seek ing my own Robbie Williams, Christian Slater, Luke Skywalker, for nights in listening to The Smiths. Tel No: 09052 300 306

Box Number: 654090 JEN, bubbly girl, from Falkirk, easygoing, bubbly, great SOH, with a big heart, likes most things in life, hoping to meet someone special. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box

Number: 656035 ENTHUSIASTIC, bubbly and full of energy female, slim build, 5ft 8ins, with blondish hair and greeny eyes, likes theatre, going to and reflexology. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 392751 OUTGOING, blue-eyed blonde, into music, wine, gigs, fun and more

wine, WLTM similar, own corkscrew a honus! Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 441524 SARAH, 4ft 7ins, size 12, medium

build, large bust, dark hair, N/S, fun, outgoing, great SOH, WLTM a tall black male, over 36. Tel No: tall black male, over 36. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 337992

NICE and young-looking lady. wants a similar bloke, for gigs, pubs, festivals, London/Brighton. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 524430

HELLO. I'm a female, I enjoy differ ent types of music and I am looking to meet someone. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 594781

LAIDBACK, attractive, petite, black rock chick 22, recently joys of indie lifestyle, seeking cool, fun guys, to initiate me, Surrey. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 756145 EVE, with long brown hair and brown eves, overweight, hoping to meet someone, nationality, size and looks are unimportant. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number:

QUITE tall, 5ft 6ins, with long dark hair and green eyes, palish skin. quite outgoing and intelligent, GSOH, likes dancing, outdoor sports. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 452320

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WITTY, fuller-sized girl, looking for a funny, probably lanky guy, they have to love The Libertines and Babyshambles. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 618576



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MICHAELA, from Leeds, 5ft tall, with shoulder length brown hair and blue eyes, size 16. Call if your interested. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 663947

FRIENDLY female, 25vrs, slim, blue eyes, looking for a great guy, for lasting friendship, outer London area, get in touch! Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 218777 FUN-LOVING indie girl, wants to find someone to go out to gigs with, for good laughs, East London area. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 914032

BLONDE, bubbly, 18vrs girl, GSOH, loves music and gigs, WLTM a male, 18-23yrs, to go to gigs with, possibly more, Bristol area. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 473387

BLUE eyed blonde, GSOH and bub bly, likes to go out on the town and listen to live music, Jack Johnson and Peter Murray. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 400749 25YRS female, likes pubs, clubs and going to gigs, WLTM a male, with similar interests. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 206219

CUDDLY, tattooed, girl DJ, seeks a laidback indie boy, for gigs, giggles and maybe more Leeds. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 798677

BRUNETTE, brown eyes, medium build, 5ft 4ins, likes going out drinking, having a laugh, if you fancy coming with me, let me know, Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 384208 MICHELLE, mixed race female,

brown hair/eyes, medium build, single mum of 3, West Yorkshire area, if you fancy a chat, get back. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 139629

22YRS female student, loves partying and going out, seeks a guy with GSOH, to have fun in London, Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number:

SINGLE mum, really into music. WLTM somebody similar, please call. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 372591 MANCHESTER female, 5ft 4ins,

with long blonde, highlighted hair and blue eyes, size 14-16. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 239058

HAZEL-EYED, single female, slim build, looking for a nice, kind, honest sincere gentleman Tel No-09052 300 306 Box Number: 914017

WEIRD, wonderful, 18yr old, dancer, with a GSOH, likes almond coffee, dislikes buttons, seeks the beautiful boy. Tel No: 09052 300

HELLO. I'm calling to all the cool, sound dudes out there, I'm a genuine, attractive, slim blonde Would love to meet you. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: NOT so gorgeous, but cool as fuck.

wants to meet a bloke, with no hang ups, just to have fun, Kent. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 955651 GOTHIC, 24yr old single mum, with black hair and green eyes, slim,

looking for love and friendship. Tel-

No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: FRIENDLY, caring female, dark hair, medium build, 5ft 7ins, gen-uine, likes walking, cycling, danc-

ing, music, seeks a male. South

West. Tel No. 09052 300 306 Box

Number: 766049 SHY female, 5ft 4ins tall, long dark brown curly hair, blue eyes, medium build, likes pubs, clubs, cinema, restaurants. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 506377

and friendship, Liverpool. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: CUTE, bi-sexual, blue-eved, blonde,

19vrs old. WLTM a similar female. for socialising and fun times together, Birmingham, Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number

21YR old female, 5ft 3ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, size 8-10, looking for a feminine female, for fun Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 767590

girls

phone at the same time as you. TEL: 09052 300 309.

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MUSIC loving male, shy, average looking, 5ft 11ins, into gigs, seeks someone similar for friendship or more. South East. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 338130 INDIE kid 22, 5ft 7ins, loves films, music, favourite band are The Strokes, looking for someone to have a super time with. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 341691

24YRS female, 5ft 10ins, long brown hair, very sensual, WLTM a bi female, for some fun, laughter

times, possible relationship, Wales,

Boys seeking

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PROFESSIONAL man, from Hampshire, seeks fun ladies, for gigs, pubs, clubbing and general mucking about, Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 536718 24YR old Morrissey fan, seeking a similar aged female, to share interests with, north Manchester area. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 972515



Girls seeking girls

REALITIFUL sensual hisexual habe into house music, seeks a gorgeous female, for fun times. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 854529

JANE, 5ft 8ins, medium build, blue eves, brown hair, aged 37, bubbly personality. Get back to me! London. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 331164

BUBBLY, outgoing 25yr old female, likes going out, clubbing, music, looking for a similar female who is honest and caring, Essex area, Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number

CUTE 18vr old bi-female, 5ft tall, WLTM a very good looking bi-female, similar age, for friendship and possibly more, Sussex area. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 872331

YOUNG slim attractive blonde, 25, fun loving, enjoys shopping, going out, cinema, eating out, WLTM someone with similar interests, Surrey area. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 145792

eyes, tall, looking for a rock and roll queen, to share good times with, Scotland. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 882310 24YR old male, seeks a similar aged female, to share interests, including indie music, wrestling, film and comedy, North Manchester area Tel No. 09052 300 306 Box Number: 653042 SHY, average-looking male, 5ft 9ins, into music, gigs, cinema, art, looking for someone similar, for friendship or more. South East. Tel. : 09052 300 306 Box Number: GLASGOW musician 19, into music,

playing guitar and gigs, loves posh rock, metal and electronica, looking for a similar beautiful girl. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 392490

FUN, good-looking lad 22, likes pubs and gigs, looking for a female 18-25, with similar interests, from the Oxford area. Tel No. 09052 EASYGOING male, into all kinds of rock music, looking for a female, for gigs and maybe more, Bristol. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 322430

IAN, white, attractive male, exsinger, seeks an attractive, chatty female singer, to share good times South East London. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 612314 TALL, bass player, seeks indie girl, for gigs, fun, nights out and in, West Yorkshire area. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 956185 HELLO. I'm a male and I'm looking for a nice, pretty girl, to have fun with, Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 331709

BLOND-HAIRED, blue eyes, active male, WLTM a fun female, to enjoy life and good times, South Coast, Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 597129

MIKE, 18vrs, honest, catholic troll. seeks a female who enjoys praying and Saturday evening Mass, will you be my Eve? Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 726591 STILL cool, indie kid, ex goth and grebo, seeks a groovy girl, for gigs, friendship and maybe more Yorkshire. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 861967

25YR old male, single dad, likes decent music and books, looking to meet somebody nice, Staffordshire area. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 925762

AVERAGE looks, outgoing, up for a laugh, likes going out, pubs, clubs, looking to meet a nice girl, good personality. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 980209 TALL male, about 6ft 4ins, medium build, looking for someone to go out with and have a good time.

London area. Tel No: 09052 300

306 Box Number: 552917 GAVIN 21, 5ft 7ins, average build, with brown hair, consider myself to be an outgoing, friendly, yet quite laidback individual, Glasgow, Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number:

Boys seeking boys

ACTOR, fun-loving, tall, dark, hand-some, looking for friendship, possibly more for gigging and going out. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 520703

INDIE boy Gaz, good looking, bi, enjoys good nights out, crazy dancing, contact me if you love to party. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 995038

MALE, looking for a guy, who likes music, going to pubs, going to gigs and festivals. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 698848 GOOD looking guy, from Cardiff,

masculine, seeks a stocky, masculine guy, into music, for gigs and more. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 869654

STRAIGHT-ACTING bloke slim 6ft 1ins, in Hull, York area, loves Glastonbury gigs, theatre, films, squash and swimming. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number

SINGLE, chain-smoking man, seeks a hot male, for fun and gigs, Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number

MANCHESTER guy, easygoing, looking to meet a slim, attractive blond-haired guy 18-24, for a possi-ble relationship, ACA. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 605124 HANDSOME lad. 25vrs. heavily into film, music and literature, WLTM straight acting, similar lads, for possible relationship. Newcastle area. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 320333

SEXY redhead, gay man, extremely open minded hair dresser, WLTM a fit man, for fun and more. Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number:

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- On your first meeting, make your own way there and back. It's risky to accept a lift from a total stranger. Don't invite people back home or give them your
- address until you're sure about them. Trust your instincts. If something feels a bit wrong or weird, end things and don't see them again.

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PICK OF THE WEEK



Xfm's Winter Wonderland

Christmas comes early in the form of Xfm's seasonal shindig, which is in aid of Shelter and features everyone from the Kaisers to Supergrass, and acoustic sets from the likes of Graham Coxon and Richard Ashcroft. Where: London Brixton Carling Academy (Sunday & Monday)

GENRE MASH-UP



LCD Soundsystem/ Art Brut/Hot Chip/

From full-on rawk (Jackson) through to electro-punk (LCD) via the Prince-meets-Kraftwerk sound of Hot Chip and the mumbled art-rock poetry of Art Brut. Where: London Brixton Carling Academy (Wednesday), Brighton Event 2 (Thursday)

DON'T MISS



Shitdisco

Shitdisco by name, insane punk-funk really-rather-good disco by nature, these Glaswegians are like Donna Summer dragging Gang Of Four to a !!! gig and sneaking XTC into their Irn Bru.

Where: Edinburgh Cabaret Voltaire (Sunday)

EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT



The Cribs

Perfect pop-punk from the Wakefield threesome with more energy than a newborn puppy, who have a loathing for scenesters, but have become their darlings due to some sterling songwriting and awesome live shows.

Where: London Mean Fiddler (Wednesday), Leeds Metropolitan University (Thursday)

ROCK LEGENDS



Chas & Dave

So uncool they're actually pretty cool (who else gets support slots with The Libertines after 25 years in the trade), the East End duo have the patent on tongue-in-cheek cockney rock'n'roll, or as they call it, "Rockney".

Where: Brighton Concorde 2 (Wednesday)

WEDNESDAY

December 7

Biffy Clyro/Paper Cuts Spring & Airbrake 028 9032 5968 BIRWINGHAW

Agent Blue/This Et Al Barfly

BRIGHTON
Chas & Dave Concorde 2 01273 673311

BRISTOL
The Dead 60s Fleece

0117 945 0996 The Saw Doctors Carling Academy

0870 771 2000 Stones From Delphi/Red Light Go/Hollow Louisia

0117 926 5978 The Woggles/Los Imbasils Croft 0117 987 4144

CAMBRIDGE Linda's Nephew Portland Arms 01223 357268

CARDIFF Mastodon/High On Fire Barfly 029 2066 7658

CHELTENHAM The Counterfeits/One Toy Soldier/Bitchpups Hub 01242 238001

Aphemia/The Aran Route/ Tolerance/Spirytus Victoria Inn 01332 740091

Beth Garner Flowerpot 01332 204955

EDINBURGH The Electric Soft Parade/

Restlesslist/Slowjet Cabaret Voltaire 0131 220 6176 Slaughter And The Dogs Queens

Hall 0131 668 2019 GATESHEAD Rufus Wainwright Sage Arena

0870 703 4555

GLASGOW Dave Burns/Bob Cuba/ Elevensixes/James McKay 13th Note Café 0141 553 1638

Freefaller/The Darlings/ Rocketfox Barfly 0870 907 0999 **Littl'ans** Upstairs At The Barfly 0870 907 0999

My Ruin Cathouse 0141 248 6606 Stacey Earle & Mark Stuart Arches 0141 221 4001

LEEDS

Bazaars/The Ebb/The Wanted/ Blindlight Primrose 0113 262 1368 **CLUB NME Presents..**

Bromheads Jacket/We Start Fires/The Fold Warehouse 0113 246 8287

Inflight Movie/All My Friends Are Dead/Solanoid Mixing Tin 0113 246 8899

The Longshots/Blind Alberto/ Sofa Pirates/Yorkshire Rats/ Crisis Point Atrium 0113 242 6116 Sean Taylor/Sergeant Lewis Cockpit 0113 244 3446

LEICESTER Horrorpops/Left Alone Charlotte 0116 255 3956

Liliths Army/Chris Odd And The Evens/Breakdowns/Attik 0116 222 3800

*LIVERPOOL Editors/The Kooks/Kubichek! Barfly @ Masque 0151 707 6171 Kubb/Leya University 0151 256 5555

The Others Carling Academy 2 0870 771 2000

Adam Bomb/Ludes/Dirty Fuzz Brixton Windmill SW2 020 8671 0700

Anticage/Reasonable Doubt/ Mellow Dramatic/Rusty Springfield/Polaris Brixton Telegraph SW2 020 8678 0777 **Brides Of Destruction** Camden Underworld NW1

020 7482 1932 Calla Islington Carling Bar

Academy N1 0870 166 3663 The Cribs Charing Cross Road Mean Fiddler WC2 020 7434 9592 **Doves** Hammersmith Carling Apollo W6 0870 606 3400

The Fucking Champs/Todd & Lords Highbury Corner Garage N5 020 7607 1818

Ginger Pig Band Oxford Street 100 Club W1 020 7636 0933 Hank Pine & Lily Fawn Aldgate East 93 Feet East E1 020 7247 6095

Jim Bob/Akira The Don Carling Academy Islington N1 0870 771 2000

Kevin Pearce Plan B 08701 165421

LCD Soundsystem/Art Brut/ Hot Chip/Jackson Brixton Carling Academy Brixton SW9 020 7771 3000

The Liquor Store/Bib/Hijera/ **Double John Grey** Bethnal Green Pleasure Unit E2 020 7729 0167

Maximo Park/Clor/Field Music Hammersmith Palais W6 020 8748 6520

The Modern/Ezra Reich/The Knock/Parker Aldgate East Rhythm Factory E1 020 7247 9386

Piano Magic/The Early Years/ Greenspace The Luminaire NW6 020 7372 7123

Pilotlight/Hybrasil Betsy Trotwood 020 7336 7326 The Playmates/Vicious Cabaret Holloway Road Nambucca N7

020 7272 7366 Porcupine Tree Shepherds Bush Empire 0870 771 2000 Rheya/Lokio/Bob Meyer Angel

Lark In The Park N1 020 7278 5781 Scarling Tottenham Court Road Metro Club W1 020 7437 0964 Southpaw/The Rank Deluxe/ Stone Halo/Last Party Shoreditch On The Rocks E2 020 7278 1074 Tigs & A Thousand Dollars/The Gems/Figure 5 Notting Hill Arts Club W11 020 7460 4459

Tim Poland/Friday & The Knights/Your Vegas/The New Shapes Camden Dublin Castle NW1 020 7485 1773

The Young Knives Rumblestrips/Good Books Camden Barfly NW1 0870 907 0999

NW5 020 7485 5358

MANCHESTER Dustins Bar Mitzvah Joshua Brookes 0161 273 7543 John Logue Academy 2

Tribeca/Richard Bailey/Marc Perrin Kentish Town Bull & Gate

0161 275 2930

NEWCASTLE **Blondie** City Hall 0191 261 2606 **Tift Merrit** Cluny 0191 230 4474

NORTHAMPTON
InMe Soundhaus 01604 250898

NORWICH

DJ Format Waterfront 01603 632717

The Prodigy/Audio Bullys Arena

0115 948 4526 Story One The Social

0115 950 5078

PETERBOROUGH Steve Harley Broadways 01733 51995



PLYMOUTH
The Chemical Brothers/Caged **Baby** Pavilions 01752 229922

My Awesome Compilation Fez Club 0118 958 6839 Stars/My Latest Novel South Street Arts Centre 0118 960 6060

SHEFFIELD Firegarden/Rise to Addiction/Head Up/Skud/ Terminal Illusion Boardwalk

0114 279 9090 Statistics/Team/Stapleton

Casbah 0114 275 6077
SOUTHAMPTON The Yo Yo's/AntiProduct/Any

Given Day/Hail Mary Joiners 023 8022 5612

WOLVERHAMPTON Hard-Fi Wulfrun Hall 01902 552121

Nick Harper/Gina Dootson/ Leeroy Stagger Fibbers 01904 651 250

IF YOU CAN'T MAKE IT TO A GIG...



The Class Of 2005
10pm Radio 2

Antony from The Johnsons is in there. And we bet he does his homework on time, Swot,

ranz Ferdinand 6.30pm The Biography Channel The life and times of the Scotch



Tonight's set comes from The

Prodigy (circa 1994).

Mike Harding 8pm BBC Radio 2

It's 40 years since the release of 'Rubber Soul', so a load of folkers like Ralph McTell are covering it.

GIGS ACROSS THE UK AND IRELAND THIS

King Automatic/Jakokoyak/The **Lodger** Moles 01225 404445 BIRWINGHAW

Armor For Sleep Carling Academy 2 0121 262 3000 Dominic Crane/The Fuzz/The War Room Flapper & Firkin

0121 236 2421

BOURNEMOUTH Club NME Presents... Bromheads Jacket/We Start Fires/The Fold Old Fire Station 01202 503888

The Prodigy Towerlands Arena 01376 326802

BRAINTREE

LCD Soundsystem/Art Brut/Hot Chip Event II 01273 732627 Sa Mon Di Concorde 2 01273 673311

Big Joan/Shooting At Unarmed Men/The Girl From Headquarters Croft

0117 987 4144 **DJ Format** Fiddlers 0117 987 3403 Julia Beale With Polarbear/ Adam/The Doubtful Guest

Louisiana 0117 926 5978 Red Top Matches/In Extremus/ The Citizens Fleece

0117 945 0996 Steve Harley Colston Hall 0117 922 3683

Adzuki/Second Monday/ **Aprilrise** Barfly 029 2066 7658 Demented Are Go/Deadline/ Miniskirt Blues Clwb Ifor Bach 029 2023 2199

CHELTENHAM Marissa Nadler/John Harris Slak 01242 524011

Blackton/The James Warner

Prophecies Victoria Inn 01332 740091 Jackie Leven Flowerpot 01332 204955

The Proclaimers Olympia 00 3531 679 3323

Stacey Earle & Mark Stuart Cabaret Voltaire 0131 220 6176

Antimaniax/Sombre State

The Ruby Tuesdays Cavern Club 01392 495370 GLASGOW Cradle Of Filth Carling

Academy 0870 771 2000 Crash My Model Car/We Hung Your Leader/Luma King Tut's Wah Wah Hut 0141 221 5279

Editors/The Kooks/ Kubichek! Barfly 0870 907 0999

GLOUCESTER
The Others Guildhall Arts Centre 01452 505089

HERTFORD

King Rat/Houston 500/The Raid Marguee Club 01992 414242

The Cribs Metropolitan University 0113 283 2600 **Dakota** Carpe Diem 0113 243 6264

Scatter Packhorse 0113 245 3980 Stars/My Latest Novel Cockpit 0113 244 3446 THE STEEL

Little Man Tate/The Screening/ Project 7 Charlotte 0116 255 3956 Solice/404MF/IN Hollow/ Sadistic Rites Attik 0116 222 3800

LIMERICK Biffy Clyro Dolans Warehouse

00 35361 314483 LIVERPOOL

Stagger Lee/This Et Al Barfly @ Masque 0151 707 6171 LONDON

Beth Orton Aldgate East Spitz E1 020 7392 9032

Big Sur/Lucena House Betsy Trotwood 020 7336 7326 Capdown Kingston Peel 020 8546 3516

Criteria/The Kicks/Pungza King's Cross Water Rats WC1 020 7336 7326

The Dead 60s Camden Electric Ballroom NW1 020 7485 9006 Guile/Black Mariah Kentish Town Bull & Gate NW5 020 7485 5358

The Light Years/We Were For/ **Duchess** Angel Lark In The Park N1 020 7278 5781

Magnum Charing Cross Road Astoria WC2 020 7434 0403 Mercury Rev/JJ72/Bender Shepherds Bush Empire 0870 771 2000 Merz Islington Carling Bar

Academy N1 0870 166 3663 Metro Riots/Sound Explosion/ Machines/The Bridge Gang/ Aldgate East Rhythm Factory E1 020 7247 9386

The Michelles/Underdog/The Vibrants Bethnal Green Pleasure Unit E2 020 7729 0167



Morning Runner/Absentee Camden Barfly NW1 0870 907 0999 The Pleasure/Septembre/ David Ryder Prangley/Villette Tottenham Court Road Metro Club W1 020 7437 0964 Scholar Green/Creme Blush/Sunshine Variety Club/ Scrotum Clamp Camden Dublin Castle NW1 020 7485 1773

Seether Charing Cross Road Mean Fiddler WC2 020 7434 9592

The Shortwave Set/Field Music/ **Howling Bells** The Luminaire NW6 020 7372 7123

Shuffle Aldgate East 93 Feet East F1 020 7247 6095

Suburban Kids With Biblical Names/The Bleeding Hearts Brixton Windmill SW2 020 8671 0700

Untitled States/Awful Sparks/ Silverscreen/Hedset/The Mekano Set Brixton Telegraph SW2 020 8678 0777

Viking Skull/McQueen Camden Underworld NW1 020 7482 1932 The Yo Yo's/AntiProduct Highbury Corner Garage N5 020 7607 1818

WANCHESTER

Horrorpops Academy 3 0161 275 2930

Littl'ans Jabez Clegg 0161 272 8612 The Maccahees/Dresden/3rd

Dan/Casual Saints Music Box

Porcupine Tree/Robert Fripp Academy 2 0161 275 2930

Tens & Units The Cooperage 0191 233 2940 NORTHAMPTON

Salvage Soundhaus 01604 250898

NORWICH Rufus Wainwright UEA 01603 505401

NOTTINGHA Club NME Presents... Tigs/

Mumm-Ra/The On-Off's Rescue Rooms 0115 958 8484 Hard-Fi Rock City 0115 941 2544

Hella/Quack Quack/You Slut Horn In Hand 0115 924 3730 The Sunshine Underground The

Social 0115 950 5078

Kathryn Williams/John Egdell Zodiac 01865 420042 POOLE

Doves Lighthouse 01202 685222 PORTSMOUTH

Rainstar Wedgewood Rooms 023 9286 3911 **PRESTON**

The Maybes 53 Degrees 01772 893 000

Nick Harper Boardwalk 0114 279 9090

SOUTHAMPTON The Undertones Joiners

023 8022 5612 SWINDON

Alex Harvest Victoria 01793 535713 **TUNBRIDGE WELLS**

Opus Trees/Titan System/ The Advanced Forum 08712 777101

FRIDAY

December 9

ABERDEEN Stanley/Booked Up Café Drummond 01224 624642 This Et Al The Tunnels 01224 211121

Black Wire/Henry And The

Bleeders/The Kramers Angel 12/4/15

Humanzi Ulster Hall

028 9032 3900 візинуванал

Furious Yellow/Paint Moustache Hare And Hounds 0121 444 2081 Jont/Jason Ensa Barfly

0870 907 0999 Organ/Daath/Out For Blood Edwards No.8 0121 643 5835 Sabotage Left/The Big Bang

Flapper & Firkin 0121 236 2421 **Seether** Carling Academy 2 0121 262 3000

Third Floor Calm/Escobar/The **Policy** Carling Bar Academy 0121 262 3000

Chris T-T/Sam Beer/Tom Hatred Brentford FC, Stripes Bar 07966 167755

BRIGHTON

Jamie Lidell/Jackson & His Computer Band Concorde 2 01273 673311

Ivory Springer/From Mars/ White Trash Ambition Croft

0117 987 4144 The Shrinks Folk House 0117 926 2987 Tailfeather Fleece 0117 945 0996

CARDIFF Aprilrise Barfly 029 2066 7658 Beneath The Surface/ Boom In The Diamond Industry/ Flailing Wail Clwb Ifor Bach

The Poppies/The Wave Pictures Howard Gardens Union Bar 029 2041 6192

CARLISLE Bevond All Reason/Snooky Richmond Hall, Brickvard

01228 512220 **EXETER**InMe Cavern Club 01392 495370

GALWAY **Biffy Clyro** Roisin Dubh 00 35391 586540

The Electric Soft Parade/ Restlesslist Barfly 0870 907 0999 Horrorpops Cathouse

0141 248 6606 **Kubb/Leya** King Tut's Wah Wah Hut 0141 221 5279

My Final Wish/Fragile/Falter 13th Note Café 0141 553 1638 Porcupine Tree/Robert Fripp Carling Academy 0870 771 2000 The Vatersay Boys Barrowlands 0141 552 4601

HERTFORD Spizz Energi/The Bangonettes Marguee Club 01992 414242

LANCASTER

Misty's Big Adventure/The Seven Inches Feedback 01524 36368

LEEDS 0113 243 5866 **DJ Format** Wardrobe

LECESTER
Firstwave/New Generation Superstars/Firebrand Attik 0116 222 3800 LIVERPOOL

Carmen Pimps/Citizen 51/Adam Bomb Cavern Club 0151 236 1964 Club NME Presents... Tigs/Ivory Carling Academy (Late)

0870 771 2000 Maximo Park/Clor/Field Music Carling Academy (Early) 0870 771 2000

The Quarter/The Drellas Barfly @



Masque 0151 707 6171

The Troubadours/The Bo Weevils/Paul Wilkes/Lucy Styles Barfly Loft @ Masque 0151 707 6171

1000 Voices/D Monic/ Hollywood Diner Kentish Town Bull & Gate NW5 020 7485 5358 The Chemical Brothers/Caged **Baby** Brixton Carling Academy Brixton SW9 020 7771 3000 Diner/June/Carter Weber Betsy Trotwood 020 7336 7326 Girls That Scratch/Meet Her

Sister/Jason Baron/Serica Angel Lark In The Park N1 020 7278 5781 Good Shoes/The Lodger/The Low Edges/Girls Girls Venue Basement SE14 020 8692 4077 The Grit Charing Cross Road Mean Fiddler WC2 020 7434 9592 **Hard-Fi** Charing Cross Road Astoria WC2 020 7434 0403 Lowgold/Turn/Everything On Black Camden Barfly NW1

0870 907 0999 Morning Runner/Gravenhurst/ **Broken Dolls** Islington Carling Bar Academy N1 0870 166 3663 The Natives/The Requiems/ **Bonar Law** Camden Dublin Castle

NW1 020 7485 1773

New Young Pony Club/The Fold Old Street 333 EC1 020 7739 5949 No Comply/Sonic Boom 6/ Navaio Code Camden Underworld NW1 020 7482 1932

The Others Camden KOKO NW1 020 7388 3222

Scott Moods/The Sunshine Delay/Nomadic Son 12 Bar Club WC2 020 7916 6989

Shitmat Highbury Corner Upstairs At The Garage N5 020 7607 1818 Stars/My Latest Novel Malet Street ULU WC1 020 7664 2000 Vatican DC/Fay Ray The Luminaire NW6 020 7372 7123

Vincent Vincent And The Villains/The Oracle/Retrofin/ Claypige Highbury Corner Garage N5 020 7607 1818

White Lie/The Delights/The **Aviators** Leicester Square Marguee W1 020 7336 7326

The Witchdoktors/The Breach/

Kingston Peel 020 8546 3516

MANCHESTER Lisa Brown/The Silent Parade/Thee Neerlymen Night And Day Café

0161 236 1822 Magnum Academy 3 0161 275 2930

My Way My Love/Mugstar/ Viva Stereo Retro Bar 0161 274 4892

NORTHALLERTON
Northern Heights New County Arms 01609 775 733

NORTHAMPTON Envy And Other Sins Soundhaus 01604 250898

Damo Suzuki The Social 0115 950 5078 Sweet Briar/Saint Joan Junktion

7 0115 911 6959 Armor For Sleep/Idiot Pilot/

Chiodos Zodiac 01865 420042

We Start Fires Met Lounge 01733 566100

SHEFFIELD Blondie City Hall 0114 278 9789 Kathryn Williams Leadmill 0114 221 2828 Life Of Agony Corporation

0114 276 0262

SOUTHAMPTON
The Warm/Nigel Clarke Joiners 023 8022 5612

SUNDERLAND Rvanisfun/Inreno/Union Divided Boulevard 0191 5673938

999/The Chaos Brothers Victoria 01793 535713

Cvrano/Cellar Door/Fray Forum 08712 777101 WOLVERHAMPTON

Wreckless Eric Newhampton Inn 01902 745773

Editors/The Kooks/Kubichek!

Fibbers 01904 651 250



John Lennon Day All day BBC 6Music

A new interview has Yoko Ono pondering what JL would've thought of the internet.

Lennon Night 7pm BBC Radio 2 A UK/US simulcast has Badly Drawn Boy and Stereo MCs

covering classic Lennon songs

Killed John 10nm Channel 4

This doc reconstructs JL's murder using interviews from Chapman.

The Frank Skinner Sho 11:00pm ITV1

Noel G guests. He's not quite Lennon, but it's not for want of trying



7.00pm The Biography Channel

He was a legendary producer, now he's an alledged murderer.

Friday Night with Jonathan Ross 10:35pm BBC 1

Wossy some fashion advice.

Hopefully Paul Weller will give

11, 35nm BBC2 Doc about the first charity rock event

Kaiser Chiefs: Live in Concert

organised by George Harrison

1.45am E4 We predict a rather enjoyable show Ha ha ha, ahem.

Book now with



www.nme.com/gigs or 0870 1663 663 callsarechargedat nationalstandardrate

SATURDAY

December 10

ABERDEEN

The Little Kicks/The Genics/The Tonics Café Drummond 01224 624642

X Is Loaded/Fell City Girl Moles 01225 404445

Editors/The Kooks/Kubichek! Barfly 0870 907 0999

Jewels/Season/Zenzai Flapper & Firkin 0121 236 2421

BRADFORD New York Alcoholic Anxiety Attack/Vicious Cabaret/Greater **Speed Accuracy** Market Tavern 01274 734176

BRISTOL

Figment/Gaslamp Quarter/Nico Blue/Prolab Louisiana 0117 926 5978

Shooting At Unarmed Men/Tired Irie/Fuzzy Lights Portland Arms 01223 357268

Mountains And Hills/Splinter

Barfly 029 2066 7658 Oasis/Razorlight/The Coral

Millennium Stadium 029 2022 4488

CARLISLE

Awesome Colour/Figure 5 Richmond Hall, Brickyard 01228 512220

Aynsley Lister Flowerpot 01332 204955 DHBHN

Biffy Clyro/Paper Cuts Temple Bar Music Centre

00 3531 670 9202 GLASGOW

Bell X1 King Tut's Wah Wah Hut 0141 221 5279 Club NME Presents... Ivory

School Of Art 0141 353 4530 Idioteque/This Et Al Barfly 0870 907 0999

Rufus Wainwright/ **Guillemots** Clyde Auditorium 0141 248 3000

Newvolution Crypt 01424 444675

The Blacklisters Primrose 0113 262 1368

Cardboard Cowboy/Bazooka Josephine Mixing Tin 0113 246 8899

The Maccabees/The Hair/Dirty Robbers Faversham 0113 245 8817 Xi/Bruise/The Adventures Of LokiJoseph's Well 0113 203 1861

Cousin Scampi/Hangover Heartattack Attik 0116 222 3800

Horrorpops/Left Alone/The Dead Pets University, Academy 3

Ian McNabb/Amsterdam Carling Academy 0870 771 2000

Doves North Wales Conference Centre 01492 879771

Angie & The Bear/Sonic State Relay/The Goose/The Playback Kentish Town Bull & Gate NW5 020 7485 5358

Army Of Flying Robots/Art Of Burning Water/Black Eye Riot/Capricorns/Taint Camden Underworld NW1 020 7482 1932 Blue Harlem/The Sheena Davis **Group** Leicester Square Marquee W1 020 7336 7326

Bob Evans Islington Carling Bar Academy N1 0870 166 3663 The Chemical Brothers/

Caged Baby Brixton Carling Academy Brixton SW9 020 7771 3000

Deadline/Demented Are Go/ Dirty Love/Seminals Highbury Corner Garage N5 020 7607 1818 Deltahead/Dennis Hopper Choppers/Zack Parish/John

Crampton Aldgate East Spitz E1 020 7392 9032 Duplex Gage/Soundvision/Big Jim And The Sindies Camden Barfly NW1 0870 907 0999

Hard-Fi Charing Cross Road

T

Astoria WC2 020 7434 0403 IQ Charing Cross Road Mean

Cardiff

Fiddler WC2 020 7434 9592 The Inmates Charing Cross Road Borderline WC2 020 7734 5547

King Pleasure & The Biscuit Boys Oxford Street 100 Club W1 020 7636 0933

Ned's Atomic Dustbin/ Mika Bomb/My Pet Junkie Kentish Town Forum NW5 020 7344 0044

No Mind/Dilate/Mad Staring Eyes/Setetone/Last Man Standing/The Brent Flood Angel Lark In The Park N1 020 7278 5781

The Pipettes/The Whore Dogs Bloomsbury Bowling Lanes
Polly Scattergood Camden Caernarvon Castle NW1 020 7284 0219

The Saw Doctors Shepherds Bush Empire W12 0870 771 2000 Statistics/Stapleton/Team Kingston Peel 020 8546 3516

The Sunshine Underground/ The New Shapes/Free Repeater/ **Members Of The Public Brixton** Windmill SW2 020 8671 0700

Supersystem/The Flesh/Pro-Forma Highbury Corner Upstairs At The Garage N5 020 7607 1818 Suzerain/Halagoogoo/Black

Cabs Putney Half Moon SW15 020 8780 9383 Sweethriar/Buswell/Murray Torkildsen Betsy Trotwood

The Vibrators/The Roosters/The Adult Section Camden Dublin Castle NW1 020 7485 1773

Violet Walls/The Marksmen/ Zeben Jameson Tottenham Court Road Metro Club W1 020 7437 0964

MANCHESTER

020 7336 7326

Life Of Agony Academy 2 0161 275 2930 NEWCASTLE

DJ Format Digital Flux/The Infactuation Junkies/ Katies Guns Egypt Cottage 0191 232 0218

Josh T Pearson Byker Cumberland Arms 0191 265 6151

Maximo Park/Clor/Field **Music** Carling Academy 0870 771 2000

NORTHAMPTON The Motorettes Soundhaus

01604 250898 **NOTTINGHAN** Buried Inside/Legion Of Doom/Lazarus Blackstar/

Atakku Junktion 7 0115 911 6959 **Gravenhurst** The Social

0115 950 5078 Club NME Presents... Little

Man Tate Castle 0161 626 4237

No Comply/Failsafe/Last Proposal Zodiac 01865 420042

PORTSMOUTH Caravans/The Racketeers/ Room 99 Wedgewood Rooms

023 9286 3911

SHEFFIELD Bad Manners/Dead Pets

Corporation 0114 276 0262 Kubb/Cord Leadmill 0114 221 2828 Levellers/Seth Lakeman Octagon 0114 222 8777

SOUTHAMPTON Tomboy/Mumm-Ra Lennons 023 8057 0460

We Start Fires/Dartz Georgian

Theatre 01642 674115 STOKE ON TRENT

Club NME Presents... Littl'ans Underground 01782 219944

1000 Planets Victoria 01793 535713

TUNBRIDGE WELLS **The Others** Forum 08712 777101

Beyond All Reason/New Legends Fibbers 01904 651 250

SUNDAY

December 11

ABERDEEN
Red Dawg Café Drummond 01224 624642 BELFAST

Paul Weller Ulster Hall 028 9032 3900 BIRMINGHAN

Duels Carling Bar Academy 0121 262 3000

Foo Fighters/The Futureheads NEC 0121 780 4133 Martha Wainwright/Teddy

Thompson Carling Academ 0121 262 3000 Stars/My Latest Novel Barfly

0870 907 0999

BRIGHTON
The Splitters/Once Over/360/

Wilf/Regatta 69/Invisible Jim/ Hakuna Pesa/Templeton Peck/ Mindgap/Go Tokvo Concorde 2

CARDIFF Abandon Ship/The Take/TV Party/Panel/Captain Insano/ The Great St Louis/ Night & The City/Bedford Falls/ State Run Clwb Ifor Bach

029 2023 2199 **Envy And Other Sins/Supergene** Barfly 029 2066 7658

EDINBURGH Mystery Juice Bongo Club 0131

558 7604 Shitdisco/Fickle Public/Pro Forma/Three Comrades Cabaret Voltaire 0131 220 6176

Statistics/Team/Stapleton Cavern Club 01392 495370

Anti Nowhere League/Four Past Midnight Barfly 0870 907 0999 **DJ Format** QMU 0141 339 9784 JJ Gilmour ABC2 0141 204 5151

HARROGATE Blondie International Centre 01423 537230

NVERNESS The Maybes Market Bar 01463 220203

Himsa/3 Inches Of Blood Blank

Canvas 0113 244 1573 Levellers/Seth Lakeman Carling

Academy 0870 771 2000 Brian Jacket Letdown/Dahlia/

Kelman/Striplight Camden Barfly NW1 0870 907 0999

Cheap Freedom/Sucka/ My Way My Love/We Yes You No Camden Dublin Castle NW1 020 7485 1773

Chris T-T/586/Action Plan/ Samsa/Garrett/Popular Workshop Brixton Windmill SW2 020 8671 0700

Donderdag/Scouting For Girls/ The Naked Apes/Transcargo/ Jesse James/Imperial Leisure Shepherds Bush Empire 0870 771 2000

Joe D'Urso/Micky Kemp 12 Bar Club WC2 020 7916 6989



Park/Editors/The Dead 60s/The

Kooks Brixton Carling Academy Brixton SW9 020 7771 3000 Littl'ans Oxford Street 100 Club W1 020 7636 0933 Mr Hudson & The Library/

Pyrelli/Deal Real Aldgate East Spitz E1 020 7392 9032 The One I Hate/Broken Davlight/ Last Nation Angel Lark In The Park

N1 020 7278 5781 Seretone/Jetlag/Jack Penate/ Roads To Rio/Yossarian Brixton Telegraph SW2 020 8678 0777 Sugar Minott/Bob Andv Kentish Town Forum NW5 020 7344 0044 Ted Maul/Sigil/Echoes Of Innocence Kingston Peel

020 8546 3516 The Toasters/The Big Camden Underworld NW1 020 7482 1932 Trashlight Vision/Insofar Islington Carling Bar Academy N1 0870 166 3663

Your Vegas Covent Garden Oporto WC1 020 7240 1548

MANCHESTER Armor For Sleep Academy 2 0161 275 2930 Cradle Of Filth/Cathedral/ Octavia Sperati Academy 0161 275 2930

Hella/Quack Quack/That Fucking Tank Star & Garter 0161 273 6726 Kubb/Cord Night And Day Café

0161 236 1822

NEWCASTL The Catweasels/The Hype Foundation/Criterion Head Of Steam 0191 232 4379

Carling Academy

0870 771 2000 The Keep/Boondock Saints/ Elizabeth Rogers Egypt Cottage 0191 232 0218

NORTHAMPTON Horrorpops Roadmender Centre 01604 604222

Mutabilis/The So Called/The Weekend Starts Here Soundhaus 01604 250898

NOTTINGHAI The Others Rock City 0115 941 2544

The Sensational Alex Harvey **Band/Lights Out By Nine Rescue** Rooms 0115 958 8484

UB40 Arena 0115 948 4526

PETERBOROUGH Freefaller Met Lounge 01733 566100

Stream/Andy Comley/Lewis **Harding & Sarah Saville** Wedgewood Rooms 023 9286 3911

Rufus Wainwright Guildhall 01772 58858

SHEFFIELD Martyn Joseph Boardwalk 0114 279 9090

SOUTHAMPTON Cubic Space Division/I'd Rather **Bungee/Substance** Joiners 023 8022 5612

WOLVERHAMPTON Agent Blue Little Civid 01902 552121

Merz/Marbled Fibbers 01904 651 250

YOU CAN'T MAKE IT TO A GIG...

10.00nm Channel 4



Bring Back The Xmas No. 1

David Essex and Slade form a supergroup to try for the top slot.

I'm Going To Tell You A Secret 10.35pm E4

No, she isn't. This is a repeat. You've heard it all before from Madonna

At The Filmore Oh my god, we can't believe it, more

Chief related programming. Popworld 10.20am Channel 4

Simon and Miquita take a look at

Franz Ferdinand's latest video.





Featuring Arcade Fire's set from the Sheffield Leadmill in Sep 2005.

Razor Cuts 8pm Virgin Radio Hard-Fi and The Paddingtons 8nm Xfm

Live coverage of the Kaiser Cheifs and Maximo Park **Christmas Calling** 2.35pm Channel 4

June Pingpong presents a 90min Christmas music special.

www.nme.com/gigs or 0870 1663 663 calisarechargedat national standard rate **Book now with**

December 12

ABERDEEN

Oasis/Shack AECC 01224 824824

Ben Folds NIA 0121 780 4133

Hundred Reasons/Brigade Barfly

BRIGHTON

Stereophonics/The Subways

Trashlight Vision/Murderdolls Concorde 2 01273 673311

The Danans Fleece 0117 945 0996 Ulvsses Louisiana 0117 926 5978

Freefaller/The Suffrajets/

Ironfly Barfly 029 2066 7658

The Dodgems/The Fallen Story/ Looking For 13/Personal Attack Victoria Inn 01332 740091

шаши **Paul Weller** Olympia

00 3531 679 3323

Biffy Clyro Fat Sam's

01382 228181

Voces Del Sur Bongo Club 0131 558 7604

Inhale/Idiom/Rapeseed Cavern Club 01392 495370 GLASGOW

Foo Fighters/The Futureheads

SECC 0141 248 3000 **Mark Owen** Barfly 0870 907 0999

The Tommys/Elysium/ Elephantine King Tut's Wah Wah Hut 0141 221 5279

The Woggles Upstairs At The Barfly 0870 907 0999 LEAMINGTON SPA

The Heys/Ashley Hancock Band Jug & Jester 07961 919756 TEICESTER

Her Innocence/Moonlights & Valentino/Shannon Tweed Attik 0116 222 3800

:Forward, Russia!/Sourpus/ Vatican Jet Charlotte 0116 255 3956

LIVERPOOL Salvage University, Academy 3 0151 256 5555

LONDON Amy Rigby/Tracy Grammer

12 Bar Club WC2 020 7916 6989 Art Brut Camden Barfly NW1 0870 907 0999

Athlete/Supergrass/The Go! Team/Morning Runner/ Graham Coxon/Richard Ashcroft/Kubb Brixton

Carling Academy SW9 020 7771 3000 Beth Orton Aldgate East

Spitz E1 020 7392 9032 Boysetsfire/Steel Rules Die

Highbury Corner Garage N5 020 7607 1818 David Gray Hammersmith Carling Apollo W6

0870 606 3400 The Debrettes/The Bishops/Butterfly Bangs/ Sarah Hawley Brixton Windmill SW2 020 8671 0700

The Della Rockers/White Trash **Ambition/Kicks** Aldgate East 93 Feet East E1 020 7247 6095

Her Space Holiday Tottenham Court Road Metro Club W1 020 7437 0964

Horrorpops Charing Cross Road Mean Fiddler WC2 020 7434 9592 Miles Hunt Charing Cross Road Borderline WC2 020 7734 5547 Nigel Clarke Islington Carling Bar

Academy N1 0870 166 3663 No Hope Astronaut/Autumn Red Camden Dublin Castle NW1 020 7485 1773

Paperfin/Jinder/David Darg Betsy Trotwood 020 7336 7326

Rod Stewart Earls Court Exhibition Hall SW5 0870 903 9033 Snow White/Kalev Bethnal Green Pleasure Unit E2 020 7729 0167 Statistics/TEAM Camden Underworld NW1 020 7482 1932

MANCHESTER Bell X1 Night And Day Café

0161 236 1822 Club NME Presents... The Sound Explosion University 0161 832 1111 DJ Format Academy 3

Joss Stone Carling Apollo 0870 401 8000

0161 275 2930

Club NME Presents... Littl'ans Empire 01642 253553 EWCASTLE

Club NME Presents... Little Man Tate Other Room 0191 261 9755

The Rigg/The Cutters/Traceless The Cooperage 0191 233 2940 Slap Stanley Head Of Steam 0191 232 4379

NOTTINGHAM

Apache Rose/Kanuba/The Starrlings The Social 0115 950 5078

Blondie Royal Centre 0115 948 252 Cradle Of Filth Rock City

0115 941 2544 OXEORD

Skindred/Devil Sold His Soul/ Bombshoe

Zodiac 01865 420042

SHEFFIELD
Creep Show/Suicide Bomber/ Invasion/RAT/Zombifie

Boardwalk 0114 279 9090

UpcdowncleftcrightcABC & Start/The Scarlet Letter Union/Spoon Girls/Do Geese See God Joiners 023 8022 5612

STOKE The Others Sugarmill 01782 214991

TUNBRIDGE WELLS Black Box Amnesia/

Organised Confusion/The Bling **Martini Society** Forum 08712 777101

WOLVERHAMPTON Robert Plant Civic Hall 01902 552121

Pure Reason Revolution/Lyca Sleep/iLiKETRAINS Fibber 01904 651 250



TUESDAY

December 13

BIRMINGHAM Freefaller/Papercuts/New Town Barfly 0870 907 0999 Club NME Presents... Littl'ans

Custard Factory 0121 604 7777 Nigel Clark Carling Bar Academy 0121 262 3000

BOURNEMOUTH
Stereophonics/The Subways

International Centre 0870 111 3000

Blondie St George's Hall 01274 752000

The Others/The Rivers Concorde

2 01273 673311

Levellers/Seth Lakeman Carling Academy 0870 771 2000

Hundred Reasons/Brigade Barfly 029 2066 7658

CHELTENHAN Frank Turner Hub 01242 238001

Voodoo 7:2/The Look Deva Mail Club 01244 343978

The Bazookas Victoria Inn 01332 740091 DUBLIN

My Latest Novel Village 00 3531 475 9372 **Paul Weller** Olympia

00 3531 679 3323 **Stars** Village 00 3531 475 9372

Kubb/Cord Cabaret Voltaire 0131 220 6176

The Proclaimers Corn Exchange 0131 443 0404

Pelican Cavern Club 01392 495370 Biffy Clyro King Tut's Wah Wah Hut

0141 221 5279 The Pogues Carling Academy

0870 771 2000 **Pure Reason Revolution Barfly** 0870 907 0999

Some Young Pedro/Errors/Findo Gask 13th Note Café 0141 553 1638 HUDDERSFIELD

Club NME Presents... Little Man Tate Tokyo 01484 432100 ISLE OF MAN
Doves Villa Marina 01624 628855

Armor For Sleep/Idiot Pilot/ **Chiodos** Blank Canvas 0113 244 1573

LEICESTER Citizen 51/Aisle 13/Herra Hydro/ Chaos Theory Attik 0116 222 3800 New Generation Superstars/ Satans Little Heart Breakers/ **Back On The Streets** Charlotte 0116 255 3956

3 Inches Of Blood/Himsa/Dozer/ GU Medicine Camden Underworld NW1 020 7482 1932

4m33s Charing Cross Road Mean Fiddler WC2 020 7434 9592 Bell X1 Old Street Cargo EC2 020 7613 7731

Ben Folds Brixton Carling Academy Brixton SW9 020 7771 3000

The Coral, Keele University, Stoke

Big Speakers/Kaibosh/My Sad Captains/The Fake Shoreditch On The Rocks E2 020 7278 1074 **Duels** Camden Barfly NW1 0870 907 0999 Filtered/The Fever Bethnal Green

Pleasure Unit E2 020 7729 0167 The Flesh/The Pistolas Buffalo Bar N1 020 7359 6191 **Guillemots** Charing Cross Road Borderline WC2 020 7734 5547 Jeremy Warmsley/After **Christmas/Simon Mastrantone**

Brixton Windmill SW2 020 8671 0700 Joan As Policewoman/Deep Elem Shepherds Bush Bush Hall W12 020 8222 6955

Kathryn James Betsy Trotwood 020 7336 7326 Kindle/Miss T & The Japanese

Tourists/Client Notting Hill Arts Club W11 020 7460 4459 The Ludes/Jamie T Oxford Street 100 Club W1 020 7636 0933 The Men They Couldn't Hang The Luminaire NW6 020 7372 7123 Snish/The Horne/In Hiding Highbury Corner Upstairs At The

Garage N5 020 7607 1818 Stuffy & The Fuses/Lynfield/ Cop On The Edge Plan B 08701 165421

Forward, Russia! White Heat @ Madame Io Io's W1 020 7734 2473



NEWCASTLE

Arch Enemy/Strapping Young Lad Academy 2 0161 275 2930 Nine Black Alps Ritz 0161 236 4355

Shack/The Drellas Academy 3

InMe Carling Academy 0870 771 2000 Pale Man Made Head Of Steam

0191 232 4379 The Spies/Marcheys House/The Silence Breaks/The Following/

Lazy Baker The Cooperage

0191 233 2940 NOTTINGHAM

The Kull/The Architects/ Kapowski/Censored The Social

0115 950 5078

023 9286 3911

PORTSMOUTH Curly/Rawkis/Helen Fenton Edge Of The Wedge 023 9286 3911 Horrorpops Wedgewood Rooms

SHEFFIELD DJ Format Tuesday Club 0144 222 8565

SOUTHAMPTON **Solent City Jazzmen** Talking

Heads 023 8055 5899 Trashlight Vision/ Die So Fluid/Plastic Toys/Texas **Drag Queen Masacre** Joiners 023 8022 5612

The Coral Keele University 01782 621111



Foo Fighters Day 7am BBC 6Music

The day begins with **Dave Grohl** fighting Phill Jupitus for the last piece of toast.



More Foo fun and some live sets from Regina Spektor and Ladyfuzz



Stevo's mad for it as he presents a headline set by Oasis.



Not to be confused with The Yorkshire Ripper, Peter Sutcliffe.



10am BBC 6Music

Less than an hour in and they're already playing one of their own sessions from January, Egomaniacs,



Chiefs indeed as the **Kaisers** use their powers to commission this set by touring chums The Cribs.



Alice Cooper presents this doc on the uniquely visual medium of comic books, on the radio.



The bit where he falls out of the car.

GET IN THE

Do you want to get your gig included in the biggest and best weekly music gig guide? Click on to NME.COM/gigs and submit your free listing. Entries must be made at least three weeks in advance of the gig date.



DJ PROFILE

GARY, TWISTED BY DESIGN



What are your three favourite songs to DJ? "'Boy With The Arab Strap' by Belle & Sebastian, 'Rebellion (Lies)' by Arcade Fire, and I'm also fond of 'Little My' by Moths. What would your fantasy club consist of?

"This is lame but it's my club. I love the atmosphere, the fact that I'm free to play the most diverse of music, and the people who come are the nicest, most amazing bunch."

Any interesting visitors to your club? "Longview, Dogs and The Cribs have all loved the night. Gruff Super Furry occasionally pops into the City Arms. There's even a mention of the pub on their new album."

Anything weird ever happen when you DJ? "'Vatican Broadside' by Half Man Half Biscuit has become a Twisted national anthem. Everyone in the room stands and sings along with it whenever it's played.'

en: Gary Twisted DJs every other Saturday at Upstairs at Dempsey's, Cardiff, every Thursday at City Arms, Cardiff and every Friday downstairs at Clwb Ifor Bach, Cardiff.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

BIRMINGHAM Friday Diamond Rendezvous at

The Nightingale Kent Street, 9pm-2am, £10 Brummie burlesque revue with a silver screen theme.

www.diamondrendezvous

Club Stutter at Manhattan

St Nicholas Street, 10pm-2am,

Playing great new acts like the Arcade Fire and Art Brut, Club Stutter will leave you lost for

www.club-stutter.co.uk

Ramshackle at Bristol Academy

Frogmore Street, 10pm-3am, £3/£4/£5 Punk anthems and rock in the top bar, and more fragrant

indie and alternative in the main room.

www.ramshackle.org.uk

realingaintes Wednesday

Club Goo at Portland Arms

Chesterton Road, 8pm-2am,

Cambridge's newest indie nights starts off with some gig action courtesy of Criteria, and then descends into rock'n'roll bedlam. www.clubgoo.co.uk

Twisted By Design at Dempsey's Castle Street. 8pm-1am, £2,50/£3 Expect to find Nick Cave tunes cosying up the Belle & Sebastian and XTC numbers, Quality, www.

twistedbydesign.co.uk

Hobo at The Bongo Club,

Holyrood Road, 10pm-late, free/£3

Join in the tramp-tastic fun at these weekly meetings of the (fictional) Scottish Hobo Society. Indie bands are followed by an alt.disco until the wee small hours

www.thebongoclub.co.uk

Optimo at The Sub Club

Jamaica Street, 11pm-3am, £5/£6

Every self-respecting Scottish clubbers' favourite night of the week. A legendary mix-up. mash-out electro stunner of a night that is more than prone to a touch of messiness

www.optimo.co.uk

Wednesday Rebellious Jukebox at Wire

Call Lane, 10pm-2am, £3.50/£4 Rebellious isn't the half of it - expect to hear the oddest mixture of indie rock this side of the weekend.

www.rebelliousjukebox.

Panic at The Cockpit Swinegate, 10.30pm-2am, £3

The Carl Barât-endorsed Panic

offers sleazy electronica, new wave and glorious rock'n'roll. www.thecockpit.co.uk

Saturday Bad Sneakers at The

Faversham Springfield Mount, 7.30pm-3am, £4/£5 The good-time indie and soul club tonight features live action from hot new things The Maccabees and The Hair.

www.thefaversham.com

LANCASTER

Lost at Toast, North Road

9pm-2am, free Top-notch messy indie night with the Ampslave DJs in the main room and dirty rock, funk and ska in the bar with Fez,

Alan and Lukey.
www.lostisshit.com

LIVERPOOL

Evol at Korova, Fleet Street

10pm-3am, £4 It's Ladytron's mutant punk electro disco's second birthday and to celebrate 2ManyDJs and The Juan Maclean are playing. www.clubevol.tk

LONDON

The Club Motherfucker

Social at Tatty Bogle Kingly Court, 9pm-3.30am, £3/£4

Daughters Of The Kaos give you a mini helping of Motherfucker, playing an unholy sonic mess of whatever they like. Members only, so join free 48 hours before at

www.tattvbogle.net

Friday Dirty Water Club at Boston Music Room Junction Road,

8.30pm-3am, £6 Tonight London's premier dirty garage rock'n'roll night plays host to The Woggles, The Buckets and The Higher State. www.dirtywaterclub.com

Saturday Feeling Gloomy at Bar

Academy Parkfield Street,

10pm-3am, £5/£7 Just been dumped? Come and cry into your beer with a soundtrack of the most depressing music of all time! www.feelinggloomy.com

Street, 9pm-late, £6/£7/£8

Rebei Rebei at ULU Malet

A tip-top gay indie night featuring The Bowie Allstars and some festive Christmas indie busking (get your loose

change ready).
www.clubrebelrebel.co.uk

Saturday Sin City at The Albany Great Portland Street,

8.30pm-2am, £3 A Christmas country hoe-down from the folks who brought you Heavy Load. Cowboy hats welcome!

www.thesincityclub.com

Monday

Airport at The Roxy

Rathbone Place, 10pm-3am, £1/£3/£4 Expect classic alternative '80s

tunes snuggling against newer

Trash at The End West Central

Street, 10pm-3am, £5/£6 Almost eight years old, Trash still takes you on a sonic trip through a whole host of genius

indie electro nonsense. www.trashclub.co.uk

Email club listings to clubguide@nme.com

Tuesday White Heat at Madame Jo Jo's Brewer Street, 8pm-3am,

£3/£4/£5 Tonight the disco of 1,000 haircuts is graced by the fabulous ¡Forward Russia!

and a super art-school disco at the end. www.whiteheatmayfair.

com

WANCHESTER

Smile at Star & Garter

Fairfield Street, 9pm-3am, f3/f4

Your classic no-frills, messy indie night. Be prepared to get scraped off the floor at the end.

www.starandgarter.co.uk

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

Friday Rattled By The Rush at Stage Door Stowel Street,

10pm-3am, £3/£5 The best of the big bands, before they get big!

WORTHING

Filthy Little Habits at The

Liquid Lounge Chatsworth Road, 10pm-2am, £1.50 An indie disco that yeers from good to amazing with patches of sublime sillin

www.filthylittlehabits. co.uk

Warehouse, 19-20 Somers Street, LS₁

Wednesday, December 7

Bromheads Jacket + We Start Fires + The Fold

NOTTINGHAM

Stealth, Masonic Place, NG1 **Thursday, December 8**

Tigs + Mumm-Ra + The On/Offs

LONDON

KOKO, 1a Camden High Street, NW1 Friday, December 9

The Others + The Crimea

LIVERPOOL

Carling Academy 2, Hotham Street, L3 Friday, December 9

Tigs + Ivory

STOKE-ON-TRENT

The Underground, Morley Street, ST1 Saturday, December 10 Littl'ans

GLASGOW

School Of Art, Renfrew Street, G3 Saturday, December 10 Ivory

MANCHESTER

Club Academy, Manchester University SU, Oxford Road, M13

Monday, December 12

The Sound Explosion

MIDDLESBROUGH

The Empire, Corporation Road, TS1 2RT **Monday, December 12**

Littl'ans

BIRMINGHAM

Custard Factory, Gibb Square, B9 4AA Tuesday, December 13

Littl'ans

HUDDERSFIELD

Tokyo, The Old Court House, Queens Street, HD1 **Tuesday, December 13**

Little Man Tate

OLDHAM

The Castle, 38 Union Street, OL1 Saturday, December 10

Little Man Tate

NEWCASTLE

Newcastle Digital, Times Square, NE1 Monday, December 12

Little Man Tate

COLCHESTER

The Underground, University Of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, CO4 **Date and band TBC**

BOURNEMOUTH

Old Fire Station, 36 Holdenhurst Road, **BHS**

Thursday, December 8

Bromheads Jacket + We Start Fires + The Fold

FUTURE GIGS ON SALE



The tour of the year kicks off in January, with the most eclectic line-up ever, boasting Maximo Park, Arctic Monkeys, We Are Scientists, and Mystery Jets. Get your tickets today or kick yourself tomorrow. On tour: January 24 to February 21

Test Icicles



The teenage mutant disco-metal freaks return to rip it up round Britain next January, bringing the sound of a heavy-metal-tipped A-bomb landing on the Beastie Boys to a venue near you.

On tour: January 13 to February 2

Oasis Turn down the sun: Oasis do some Chrimbo dates

The brothers Gallagher put their money where their mouths are and hit the road to prove they're still the most relevant band in the universe. Perhaps not, but they still know how to put on a show.

On tour: December 14 to December 22

All Tomorrow's Parties Weekend One (May 12 - 14 2006) Acts include Devendra Banhart/ Mudhoney/Yeah Yeah Yeahs/Comets On Fire/Country Teasers Weekend Two (May 19 - 24 2006) Acts Include Ween/Sleater Kinney/The Shins

Richard Ashcroft

Glasgow ABC (January 20 2006), Gateshead Sage (21), Preston Guildhall (22), London Electric Ballroom (24)

Newcastle Academy (January 30 2006), Manchester Academy (February 1 2006), Birmingham Academy (2). London Brixton Academy (3)

The Boy Least Likely To

Brighton Hanbury Ballroom (February 16 2006), Bristol Louisiana (17), Southampton Joiners (18), Oxford Zodiac (19), Birmingham Bar Academy (20), Sheffield Leadmill (22), Manchester Night & Day (23), Glasgow King Tut's (24), York Fibbers (25), Nottingham Social (26), London Bush Hall (28)

Bullet For My Valentine Cardiff University (January 15

2006), Bristol Carling Academy (16). **Nottingham** Rock City (17). Southampton Guildhall (19), Norwich UEA (20), Manchester Academy (21). Newcastle Carling Academy (23), **Glasgow** Carling Academy (24), Leeds University (25), Birmingham Carling Academy (27), **London** Brixton Carling Academy

Birmingham Symphony Hall (January 30 2006), Cambridge Corn Exchange (31), Nottingham Royal Centre (February 1), London Apollo (2), Edinburgh Playhouse (4), Glasgow Concert Hall (5), Manchester Bridgewater Hall (6)

Birmingham Carling Academy 2 (February 28 2006), Glasgow ABC 2 (March 12006). Manchester Academy 3 (2), Sheffield Corporation (3), London Garage (4), Oxford Zodiac (6), Exeter Cavern (7), Cardiff University (8)

Coldcut London Cargo (January 19 2006), Norwich Waterfront (February 16 2006), **Nottingham** Rescue Rooms (17), Bexhill De La Warr Pavilion (18), Exeter Lemon Grove (22), Birmingham Custard Factory (23), Manchester Academy 2 (24), **London** Shepherds Bush Empire (25), **Brighton** Corn Exchange (April 19 2006), Bristol Academy (20), Gateshead Sage (21), Dublin Village (22), **Cardiff** The Point (24), Sheffield University (25), Glasgow Tramway Theatre (26)

Delays

Jersey Havana (Feb 10 2006), Belfast Spring & Airbrake (15), Derry Nerve Centre (16), Galway Roisin Dublin (17), **Dublin** The Village (18), **Liverpool** Stanley Theatre (20), Aberdeen Moshulu (22), Glasgow QMU (23), Preston University (24), **Sheffield** Leadmill (25), Manchester (27), Newcastle University (28), **Leeds** Cockpit (March 1). Nottingham Rescue Rooms(2), Bristol Fleece (4), Birmingham Academy (5), London Shenherds Bush (7). Brighton Concorde (8), **Southampton** University (9)

Bristol Academy (February 24 2006), **Southampton** Guildhall (25) Norwich UEA (26) Manchester Academy (27), Glasgow Barrowland (March 1), Newcastle Academy (2), Birmingham Academy (3)

Goldfrapp Cardiff Great Hall (February 1

2006), Southampton Guildhall

(2). Cambridge Corn Exchange (4), Reading Hexagon (5), London Brixton Academy (9 & 10), Manchester Apollo (18), Liverpool University (21), Sheffield Octagon (23), Birmingham Carling Academy (24), Belfast Ulster Hall (26)

Liverpool Carling Academ (February 15 2006), **Leeds** University (16), Glasgow Barrowland (17), Manchester Academy (18), Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall (20), Newcastle University (21), Sheffield Plug (22), Reading University (24), Brighton Corn Exchange (25), **Bristol** Academy (26), Norwich Waterfront (27) London KOKO (March 1 & 2) 2006), **Oxford** Brookes University (5), Leicester (6), Cardiff Coal Exchange (7), **Southampton** University (8)

Nine Black Alps: visiting

seven big cities in February

Kaiser Chiefs Glasgow SECC (April 19 2006), London Alexandra Palace (21 & 22), Plymouth Pavilion (24), Brighton Convention Centre (25). Birmingham NIA (26), Leeds Millennium Square (29 & 30)

W! The Kooks

Southampton Joiners (January 24 2006), Birmingham Bar Academy (25), Cambridge APU (26), **Bristol** Louisiana (27), Tunbridge Wells Forum (28), **Leeds** Cockpit (30). Nottingham Social (31), Manchester Academy 3 (February 12006), **Sheffield** Fuzz Club (2). Newcastle Academy (3). Edinburgh Venue (5), Glasgow King Tuts (6), **Hull** Adelphi (7), **Liverpool** Korova (8), **Oxford** Zodiac (10), **Norwich** Arts Centre (11), Brighton Concorde 2 (13), London ULU (14)

Dublin Temple Bar Music Centre (January 7 2006), **Belfast** Spring & Airbrake (8), London ICA (10-14)

My Morning Jacket Birmingham Academy 2 (January 18 2006), Bristol University (19), Manchester Academy 2 (20) Glasgow Oran Mor (21). Nottingham Rescue Rooms (23), Brighton Concorde (24), London Astoria (February 9)

EW! Nine Black Alps

Newcastle Carling Academy (February 15 2006), **Glasgow** ABC (16), Liverpool Carling Academy (17), **Portsmouth** Pyramids Centre (19), **Nottingham** Rock City (20), **Cambridge** Junction (21), Manchester Academy (25)

NEW! ShockWaves NME Awards Tour 2006 Maximo Park/Arctic Monkeys/We

Are Scientists/Mystery Jets **Dublin** Ambassadors (January 24 2006), Belfast Ulster Hall (25), Glasgow Carling Academy (27). Edinburgh Corn Exchange (28), Newcastle Carling Academy (29), Nottingham Rock City (31). Leeds University (February 12006), Liverpool University (2), Manchester Academy (4), Sheffield Octagon (7). Birmingham Carling Academy (8), Norwich UEA (9), Cardiff University (11), **Cambridge** Corn Exchange (12), **Bristol** Carling Academy (13), Portsmouth Guildhall (15), Brighton Dome (16), London Brixton Carling Academy (17)

NEW! Oasis Glasgow SECC (December 14 & 15), Belfast Odyssey Arena (18 & 19), Dublin Point Theatre (21 & 22)

London Islington Bar Academy (January 9 2006), **London** Metro (10). London Brixton Windmill (11), **Birmingham** Academy 2 (13), Newcastle Academy 2 (14), Glasgow King Tuts (15), Manchester Night & Day (16), Leeds Josephs Well (18), Bristol Fleece (19)

Reth Orton

Bristol Colston Hall (February 14 2006), **Brighton** Dome (15), Norwich UEA (16), Warwick Arts Centre (17), Nottingham Rock City (19). Leeds Metropolitan University (21), Manchester Academy (22), Glasgow Barrowland (23). St Albans Alban Arena (25). Cambridge Corn Exchange (26), London Shepherds Bush Empire (27)

The Rakes

Exeter Lemon Grove (January 27 2006). Portsmouth Pyramids (28), Cambridge Junction (29), Norwich Waterfront (30), Bristol Anson Rooms (31), London Astoria (February 22006), Sheffield Leadmill (3), Wolverhampton (4), **Manchester** Academy 2 (6), Newcastle University (7), Glasgow QMU (8), Aberdeen Moshulu (9), Dublin Village (11),

NEW! Test Icicles

Manchester Academy 3 (January 13 2006). Edinburgh Venue (14). Glasgow Barfly (15). Newcastle Cluny (16), Leeds Faversham (17), Brighton Ocean Rooms (25), Cardiff Barfly (26), Birmingham Barfly (27), **Nottingham** Rescue Rooms (28), Nottingham Rock City Basement (28 Matinee), Sheffield Leadmill (30), Oxford Zodiac (31), Stoke Sugarmill (February 1)

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t's been something of a miracle year for Oasis. After over a decade of highs and lows, fights and feuds, backlashes and emergency dentistry, they returned to form in May with the huge-selling

'Don't Believe The Truth', following it up with some truly legendary live shows. Now, on the eve of their biggest and last UK gig for the foreseeable future at Cardiff's Millennium Stadium, we've teamed up with Amazon.co.uk Christmas Stars to offer one lucky reader an amazing prize.

amazon.co.uk and you're done.

Yes, a print of the artwork from the album, signed by the whole band, could be yours to cherish for perpetuity. All you have to do is go to NME.COM/WIN and answer this mind-bogglingly easy question:

el Gallagher is – factually speaking – the world's most famous Noel, But which other celebrity Noel was famous for writing the play Blithe Spirit and appearing in The Italian Job?

If you're not lucky enough to win, you can still see an exclusive clip of Oasis' performance of

The Importance Of Being Idle' at City Of **Manchester Stadium on the Christmas Stars** section of amazon.co.uk.

IPC Media Limited's normal terms and conditions apply to this competition (available at MME.COM). The judge's decision is final, and there is no cash alternative. The closing date is December 14.

WINNER!

Vanessa, 30, won a big lot of Nirvana swag (NME, October 29). "I'm really excited about my win - a big THANK YOU to you all at NME.



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CLUES ACROSS

1 It was her of coarse from Towers Of London (3-4-3-3)

9 Smashing Pumpkins could perhaps try hit there (6-5)

10 Rogue version of Beck release (5)
11 (See 21 across)

12 One Little Indian label act who talked excessively on their 'Tales From The Urban Prairie' (9)

15+27D Coming out of Canada, she just 'Followed The Waves' (3-3-4)

16 (See 3 down) 20 Without having any requirement of Alfie (2-4)

21+11A "And when I'm alone and scared I think of _____/They would make no sense to you, but

I make them all the time", 2002 22+15D Seal sang a different version to Mystery Jets (4-5)
23 It's that time of year for
Charlotte Hatherley (6)

28 Kings Of Convenience had the skill and aptitude to record this number (4-3)

30 She gets into a sham argument - observing 'Sometimes It Snows In April' (4)

32 "I've become so ____, I can't feel you there", 2003 (4)
33 Suede's record label before

signing to Epic (4)

34 Yes Mr, that's a change of name to Hell for Television's Richard (5)

CLUES DOWN

1 Madonna no longer on the line (4-2)

2 Both Arcade Fire and Hilary Duff are making the same rousing call iust now (4-2)

3+16A "Nah pop no style, a strictly roots", 1977 (6-3-7)

4 The puzzling thing about this ambient dance fusion act is their name (6)

5 Broken hearts given by So Solid Crew (6)

6 The Subways won't leave us alone (4-3)
7 Possibly Ted's remaster of Nas

single or Fabolous album (6-6) 13+8D Feeder's original drummer did new version of 'Jolene' (3-3) 14 'The ___EP' in 1992 included covers of 'I'm Too Sexy' by Saint Etienne and 'Deeply Dippy' by The

Rockingbirds (4) **15** (See 22 across)

16 Paddingtons man emerging from escalator bottom at King's Cross (3-5) 17 "Make a joke and I will sigh

and you will laugh and I will cry", 1970 (8)

18+26D+29D Craig David got

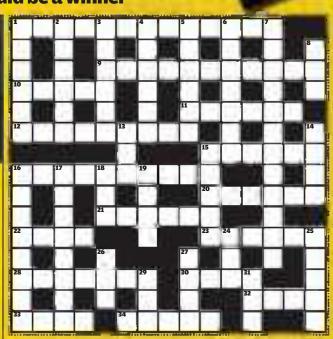
1842604290 Craig David got there in the end (3-3-3) 194250 But are Sky about to show this Yorkshire folksinger? (4-5) 24 'Surfin' __', Beach Boys' debut chart album and single (1-1-1) 25 (See 19 down)

27 (See 15 across) 29 (See 18 down)

now by Goldie Lookin Chain (1-1-1)



dright?



Across: 1+2D Apply Some Pressure, 9 Music, 10 Alex Turner, 12 Kessler, 14 DJ Shadow, 16+7D Wasted Time, 17+34A Born To Lose, 18 Emoh, 20 Over Rising, 21 Maybe, 25 Oscar, 26 I Will, 27 Jago, 28 Loft, 30 Kid, 31 Used, 32 Hal, 33 Bees, 35 Fry.

Down: Let's Active, 4 Sorrow, 5 Meek, 8 Paddy Boom, 11 Restless, 13 Rush, 15 Waterfall, 19 Magic, 20 Obvious, 22+24D Arcade Fire, 23 Friday, 25+6D On The Outside, 29 Oto, 30 KLF.

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Music and more to check out This week: Barry Hyde, The Futureheads

WHAT I'M LISTENING TO RIGHT NOW

My Black Ass

"Steve Albini [vocals/guitar] is a nasty man and he wants you to know about it."

2 Sparks Beaver O'Lindy

"It's a really odd song. When the chorus comes in, it's a total surprise."

Sweep The Leg Johnny Sometimes My Balls Feel

'It's an endurance test on the ear, but I like a bit of that now and again."

The Golden Virgins Staving Sober

"It has a guitar sound that sounds like the Bad Seeds. It's doom music!"

Derek & Clive Ad Nauseam

"It's about a man who has an endangered species living in his balls."

Billie Holiday Solitude

"She's my favourite singer of all time. It's one of my favourite songs. It's stunning."

Steve Reich Six Pianos

"It changed my viewpoint on how music could be made. It's an elevating listen."

River Euphrates "I love the Pixies!"

Field Music If Only The Moon Weré Up "They're musical

perverts!' 10 Aphex Twin
To Cure A Weakling Child "For fuck's sake!

What fucking planet did this guv come from!? Unbelievable!

MY FAVOURITE BANDS



Mystery Jets
"I love them because they're an unusual band, are challenging and have a youthful exuberance that I admire. We just went on tour with them, and that was smashing. I love the fact that they're not ashamed to be a bit muso, you know? They're trying, not just buying some tight pants and taking drugs. They're like friggin' circus freaks, but they're some of the sweetest players you'll hear. The guitar player's like Steve Howe from Yes, but 19. Just 19!? He gets this sound out of his guitar that feels like he's punishing it for something it did in its past. Is he a better guitar player than me? Aw, no-one is!"



Field Music

"It's just fucking mind music! It's all beautifully arranged, and they're one of the best live bands around at the minute. They're a three-piece band from Sunderland, and they've got so much dynamic in their music.'



Joanna Newsom

"She sings like she's from a different planet. She's a great musician and she plays challenging music. She forces people to think about whether they like it, primarily because of her voice. To me, that's what music is all about."

MY BIGGEST INFLUENCE

Mum and dad

"Without my parents' passion for music, I wouldn't have that in my gene pool. When I was five, my dad bought me a record player, and I remember, me and Dave [younger brother, drums] were both stark naked, listening to The Beatles.
I remember thinking, 'Fucking hell What is this?!' I've got my parents to thank for that. Without them I wouldn't be doing music at all.'



A GUILTY PLEASURE

Simply Red

"Honest! He's obviously got some personality problems, but I think he's got some class singles! When we were on tour in Japan, me and Ross ended up doing a Simply Red karaoke duet.'



OTHER STUFF

Throne Of Blo

"It's a samurai film based on the storyline of Macbeth. The photography is stunningly beautiful, and it's really, really moody."



The Life Of Mammals

"It's got to be The Life Of Mammals for me. It's fascinating, the photography is unbelievable, and the music is composed for the actions of the animals. Mammals are amazing! Bats can fly! It's quite amazing.'





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GREEN DAY's mad nativity play

IAN BROWN reviewing the year's top times

What KASABIAN really think of each other

DAVE GROHL's Christmas drugs binge

...and emergency PETE AND KATE wrapping paper



ARCTIC MONKEYS' album exclusive track-by-track!

