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Killing Bono is an Irish music-based comedy from the writers of The Commitments, Based on Neil McCormick's autobiography, it tells of his and his brother's disastrous attempts to become global rock stars. Failing spectacularly they can only watch while old school friends U2 become the biggest band in the world



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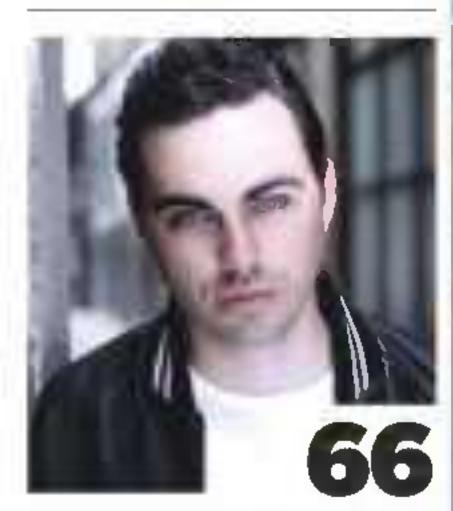
## INSIDE THIS

## WEEK

03/09/2011



"MUM WAS UPSET..." SHOCK INTERVENTION FROM PEGGY SCUPPERS THE LIAM-ON-NOEL LAWSUIT



"I REMEMBER THE SCHOOLGIRL OUTFIT" OF COURSE YOU DO, RICHARD FROM HARD-FI



"STUPID NAMES AND GREAT HAIR ARE IMPORTANT IN ROCK'N'ROLL"
NICKY WIRE LOVES THE HORRORS



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Reading and Leeds Festivals: The ultimate review!

ALL THE ACTION FROM BOTH SITES, WITH MUSE, MY CHEMICAL ROMANCE, PULP, THE STROKES, ODD FUTURE AND MORE. PLUS FREE POSTERS!



"I KNEW BELIEVING IN JESUS WAS NONSENSE"

THE DRUMS BARE THEIR SOULS ON NEW ALBUM 'PORTAMENTO'. BUT IS IT ANY GOOD?



"TOO BEARDY"
LAURA MARLING DOESN'T HAVE
A BEARD, SO HOW DID SHE GO
DOWN AT GREEN MAN?





## ON REPEAT

THE SOUNDS RATTLING ROUND THE SKULLS OF THE NME STAFF THIS WEEK







#### **JAMES BLAKE & BON IVER**

Fall Creek Boys Choir

To say that 'Fall Creek Boys Choir' isn't exactly a singalong number would be an understatement. Even so, despite a seemingly impenetrable sheen of glitch-heavy harmonics, vocodered mysteriousness and the vague, distant whirr of what sounds like a washing machine, this is a proper grower.

There's a raw emotion sandwiched between the multi-textured sonics

Debuting online last week, this unlikely pairing of James Blake and Bon Iver's Justin Vernon, two of the most vital but unexpected success stories of recent years, probably won't have middle England grooving

in the aisles of Morrisons, but then they've already got 'Limit To Your Love' and 'Calgary' for that. Vernon and self-confessed Bon Iver fanboy Blake decided to join forces after meeting at this year's SXSW and, instead of meeting up in swanky hotels, getting giddy on Cristal and backslaps à la 'Watch The Throne', they composed this track over email. While the song's aches and breaks are undeniably a product of the digital age, there's a raw emotion sandwiched between the multi-textured sonics. On the first listen, you'll probably get cold sweet nothing, but by the third play the warmth will creep through, and the glorious fifth? You'll just have to discover that treat for yourself. Leonie Cooper, Deputy News Editor



#### **KURT VILE**

In/Out Blues

The delicious lie-in laziness of this minimal meander (one of three new songs on a split UK tour seven-inch with Woods) belies a bitter heart, Vile's voice as sleepily gorgeous as a hand stroking your bed-headed hair as he drawls, "Whose side are you on?"

Emily Mackay, Reviews Editor

#### **NIKI & THE DOVE**

The Drummer

Rogue synths pile over each other like primary colours on a chalk board, lyrics come at you like a hundred questions popping up into your brain at once... yep, Niki & The Dove continue distilling the elemental into cautionary, unpredictable electronic shapes on this, perhaps their most gleaming pop moment to date.

Priya Elan, Assistant Editor, NME.COM

#### **NEW WAR**

**Ghostwalking** 

Dry-boned percussion, querulous incantations and lost iceberg synths carry New War up from the ever-fertile Melbourne underground with this simple yet poltergeist-persistent 12-inch, which reaches us via the medium of Gossip guitarist Nathan's new Fast Weapons label.

Luke Turner, writer

#### RACHEL ZEFFIRA

To Here Knows When (My Bloody Valentine cover)

Less a cover of the MBV classic, more a complete orchestral re-imagining, which is further proof that the non-Faris half of Cat's Eyes is one of the most exciting musicians we've become acquainted with this year. Rachel Zeffira's solo project can't come soon enough.

Hamish MacBain, Assistant Editor

#### **NEW LOOK**

Nap On The Bow

If the New Look chain are looking for a new look they should look no further than New Look. The Canadian boy/girl duo's deft hybrid of breathy vocals and hypnotic drum pad pads, a minimal xx/ Alpines-meets-silky '80s production

type thing, is the perfect zeitgeisty noise to buy bangles and ballet pumps to. Tim Chester, Deputy Editor, NME.COM

#### **SPECTOR**

What You Wanted It's third time lucky for London indie warhorse, former Les Incompetents and Ox. Eagle. Lion. Man frontman Fred Macpherson. He's done his time in the trenches, now he's ready for the glory. Which means a comely new band line-up and a gleaming stockpile of stomping Killers melodies like this one.

Krissi Murison, Editor

#### **FUTURE ISLANDS**

Balance

The Baltimore trio's unsurprisingly stellar third LP is a thing of no small beauty, flecking its tidal rumble with enough summery, cerebral oomph to knock you into the Jacuzzi. 'Balance' is appropriately bubbly, gently rubbing Gerrit Welmers' gruff grumble against the polished fleece of a neon Panda Bear. Jazz Monroe, writer

#### **SLOW CLUB**

Where I'm Waking.

Whisperit, but have Slow Club gone a bit... sexy? We had the duo pegged as the type who would plump for a type of old-fashioned courting in which holding hands would be a tad too risqué, but here singing drummer Rebecca Taylor purrs "You've got the brains, I've got the body" over a wash of jingly-jangly sound. Ooh er, missus

Ben Hewitt, writer



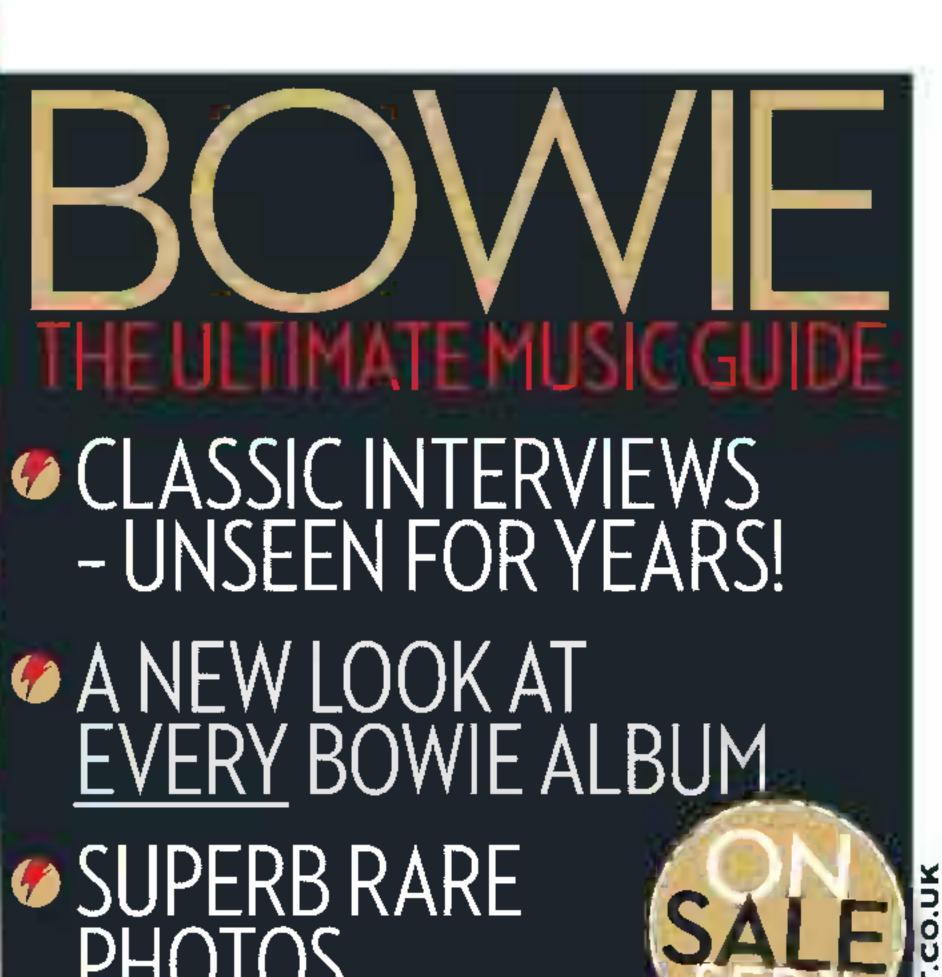
#### **BJORK**

Moon

Björk's stuttering vocal soar has always seemed wise beyond this world, as if she were dispatched from space to deliver sagacious prophecies and swaddle us from the future's ills. This latest song to appear from 'Brophilia' is a cosmos of pearly harps, darkened by Björk and her siren choir warning that only rebirth can save us now.

Laura Snapes, Assistant Reviews Editor





FROM THE MAKERS OF UNCUT

RADIO

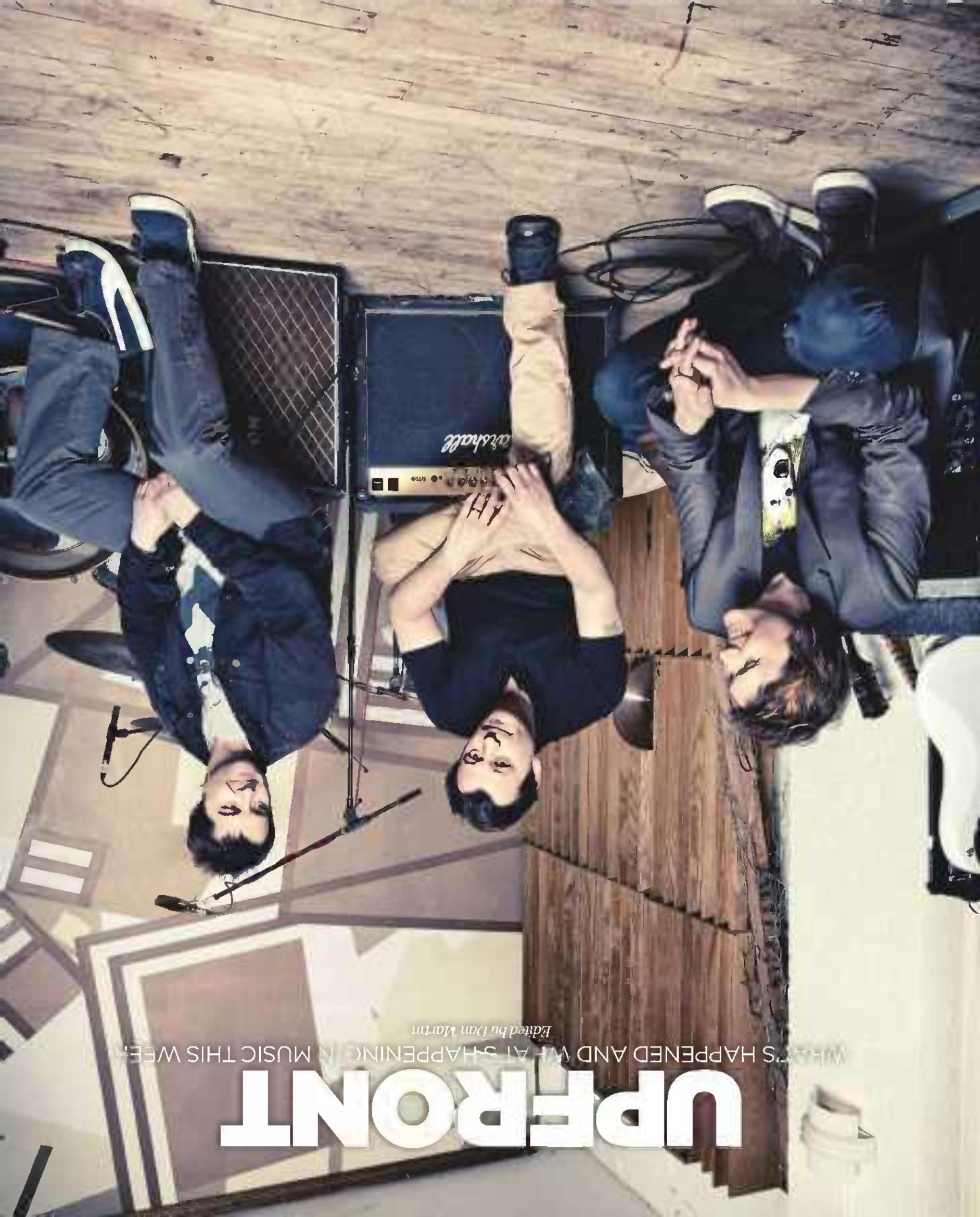
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# "THIS WILL MARK THE END OF OUR SECOND GREAT CYCLE"

With their second career-spanning compilation ready for release, a massive Christmas farewell show and then indefinite hiatus, is it possible **Manic Street Preachers** are trying to tell us something?



When Nicky
Wire declared
that the
Manics were
going for
"one last shot
at mass

communication", it appears that was more than just a line. With the touring rounds for 'Postcards From A Young Man' now complete, the band are putting a full stop on their "second great era".

There's a new, definitive singles collection, a massive Christmas au revoir, an enforced hiatus – and then one big unholy question mark over the Manic Street Preachers' future. October 31 sees the band reach a milestone in any band's life, their second greatest hits, in the form of 'National Treasures' – a 38-strong collection of every single they've ever released between 1991 and 2011, from 'Motown Junk' through to their new offering, a cover of 'This Is The Day' by The The (right).

The track will kick off the next round of activity for the Manics, leading into the coyly named

singles
collection.
"It is really
cheeky, isn't
it? I had
thought
about it for
a year or
so. It is

half-cosy and half just a piss-take as loads of people hate us, as you know, so it's a bit AC/DC, isn't it? It just seemed to stick to everything really well, and I think we've earned the right. There's not many bands who have had the run of singles that we've had and kept a pretty high standard along the way. It's something that we feel is probably over, the idea of having massive hit singles - unless something dramatically changes in life, it's probably at an end. The single is no more, as such, from what we grew up with - anyway,

let's face it, it's a totally different

bands that get in the charts really,

dimension. There are no guitar

**NICKY WIRE** 

if you look at the Top 40. You've got to come to terms with that at some point."

Indeed, Wire may have reason to sound forlorn. After that shot at mass communication, 'Some Kind Of Nothingness', the second single from the album, became the first proper Manics single not to make the top 40, going in at 44. The follow-up, 'Postcards From

A Young Man' itself, scraped 36 in the midweeks but dropped to 54 by the Sunday. And yet, for putting a pop spring back in the band's step – and carning them a slot on Strictly Come Dancing, Wire is taking 'Postcards...' as a victory.

"To do what we did on our 10th album, sell 150,000 albums, and loads of tickets, and be relevant, on the radio, any guitar band would fucking die for that at the moment!

"There's a sense of giving it all we've got... we've got to wave our goodbye a bit"

"And for us to be doing it on our toth album, we're still really proud. It's genuinely, for the three of us, one of our favourite records. There's just something, there's a sense of us giving it all we've got, and I think we've got to wave our goodbye a bit. I think this greatest hits is completing the end of the second great cycle of Manic Street Preachers. Hopefully there'll be a third, but we've got a big job to take on to do that."

Wire pledges that the band will be away for at least two or three years, to rest, write (he's also threatening an autobiography) and reconvene – although he adds, not entirely joking, "and who knows



what we will be left with in terms of a music industry by then? We'll just have to wait and see."

Fittingly, there will be a going-away party. December 17 will see Manic Street Preachers take over London's 02 Arena with an epic, and likely very gruelling show that will see them play every single one of those 38 singles, complete with some special guests and even an interval. "We've never done anything on this scale before, so we'll be playing for an hour-and-a-half, then there will be a half-hour interval, with lots of stuff, film stuff, to do. And then we'll finish with another 20 songs.

"It's going to be an immense project, production-wise – screens, videos, you name it, you know, it'll be a completely unique thing.

And we'll never do it again... it's really, kind of, finishing up. I mean I can't remember the last time we played 'Revol'. I literally have no fucking idea."

It remains to be seen whether Nicky, James and Sean can make it through the pain barrier, but whatever the future holds, it promises to be a hugely emotional night. "It's Christmas, so there will be glitter, there'll be confetti, there'll be lipstick, video screens, there'll be tears, there'll be joy," adds Wire. "And hopefully there will be 38 songs blasted through as well."

### HOT OFF THE NEWS-WIRE

The Manics' reliable opinionspouter on the most pressing matters of the day

#### **ON THE RIOTS**

"There's just a massive blot of depression and darkness hanging over the country that I have no answers for whatsoever. I keep going back to Richey's lyrics to be honest, like "all this gorgeous poverty of created need". I've just lost complete faith in humanity, and myself. I'm just in no position. I have no connection. The one thing I get really annoyed about is how poverty equates with stupidity and violence. Because there's millions and millions of poor people in the world, I come from it myself. My father, and especially my mum, was an evacuee in the war and all they ever did was try to improve the lives of me and my brother. I hate that patronising tone that if you're poor it means then you have to be thick and resort to violence."

#### ON POLITICS IN POP, OR THE LACK OF IT

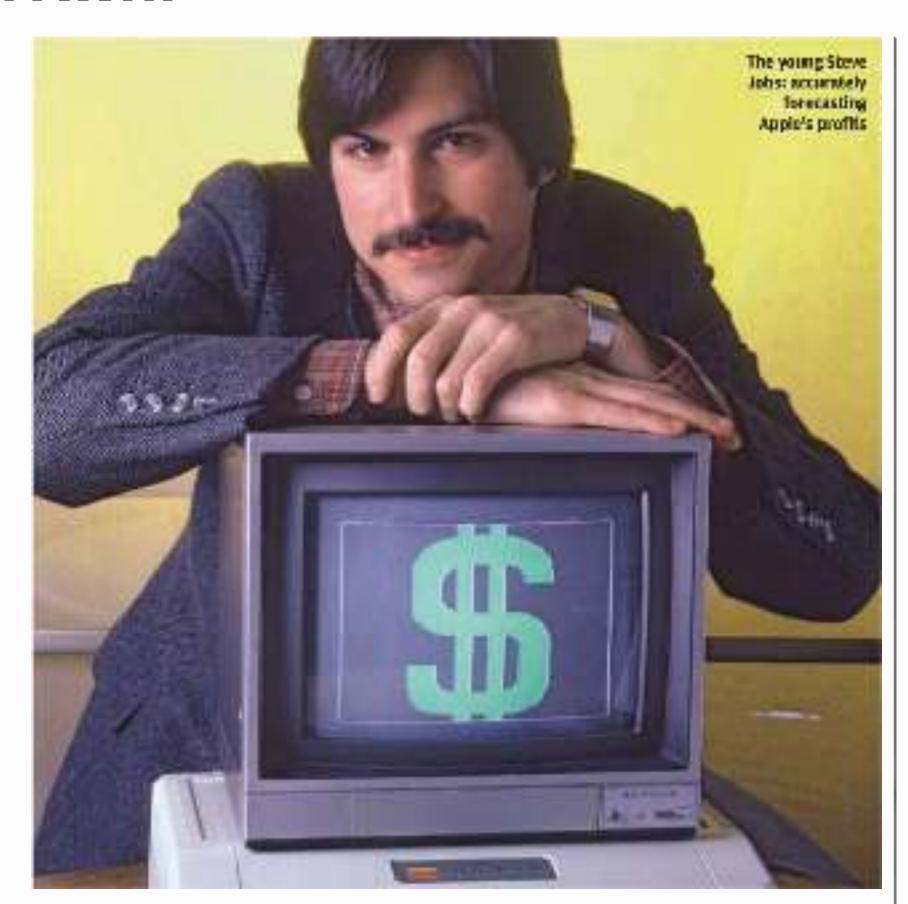
"I'm not even surprised anymore. I think our brains have been totally rewired by the internet. There's a book called *The Shallows* by Nicholas Carr, about how it has just rewired a young generation's minds to bypass any serious consideration of stuff like that. They are just much more interested in whether there's a free Wi-Fi zone than the unemployment rates."

#### ON ROCK'N'ROLL

"I want to be in The Horrors, actually. Right from the start I just loved the way they wanted to be a band, they looked like a band, they had stupid names, great

hair, everything that should be important in rock'n'roll, and this album, how it hasn't got a Mercury nomination I am just truly and utterly dumbfounded by. Wonderful band, so inventive, and they seem like a throwback to an era that just doesn't exist anymore."





### APPLE LOSES ITS CORE

Departing Apple CEO Steve Jobs ushered in a digital revolution. Where next for the company?

we consume music more profoundly than any other man in history – but now the dazzling career of Steve Jobs, Apple CEO and mastermind of iTunes and the iPod, is effectively at an end. The 56-year-old company boss, who has been plagued with health problems since being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in 2004, has stepped down, telling employees he could "no longer meet [his] duties and expectations as Apple's CEO".

The man who none other than, er, John Bon Jovi holds "personally responsible for killing the music business" has certainly driven seismic changes in music over the past decade. With 315 million iPods sold and 15 billion tracks downloaded from iTunes, Apple now dominate the music industry, controlling 80% of the legal MP3 market. Not bad for a company that most people thought was dead in the water in the mid-'90s.

The price of music has fallen sharply since the turn of the century, and people increasingly buy single tracks rather than albums. Those are both huge cultural shifts, and it's Steve Jobs who made them happen. He's clearly a monumentally important figure. But now he's stepped down, will Apple's stranglehold on digital music weaken? Will we see a shift to new gadgets or new technologies?

#### WHAT WE'D LIKE TO SEE HAPPEN

There's an argument for saying Apple have become too big a player in the music world, steamrollering potential rivals: iTunes has few competitors, aside from Amazon. If Apple's share price tumbles and they stop innovating, it'd be great to see a host of new contenders spring up, maybe offering tracks at different prices. How about a digital retailer that invested its profits back into developing new talent? You know, like record labels used to be able to do.

#### WHAT ACTUALLY WILL HAPPEN

Not a whole lot. Steve Jobs has been on medical leave since January, so has hardly been hands-on. Jobs' successor Tim Cook would be insane to change things too much, given that Apple is now the world's biggest company. Sure, iPod sales have plummeted since everyone listens to music on their smartphones now, but iTunes still makes tons of money.

And it can adapt: its latest innovation, iCloud, which enables you to store your music remotely and access it on any device, is likely to ensure Apple's popularity endures, heading off competition from streaming sites such as Spotify. So, the end of an era? Not quite – but it's sayonara from the guy who made that era possible.



Kasabian Hit The Road

Kasabian will play

a 10-date arena tour

this November and

December with 02.

Serge Pizzorno spoke to NME ahead of the 'Velociraptor!' shows. "It's going to be an incredible rock'n'roll show," he raved. "We're not going to lose our integrity. Don't worry, there'll be no fireworks - it won't be Spinal Tap and it won't be overblown. There'll be no ballerinas." The tour starts at Brighton Centre on November 28 and comes to a ballet-free climax at The O2 in London on December 14. "It will transcend everyone into outer space," promises Serge. "It really will." Tickets go on sale this Friday (September 2) at 9am, but 02 customers can get

tickets 48 hours

before that - text

Priority to 2020

for details.

## LIAM AND NOEL REACH 'PEACE'

Did their mum give them both a clip round the ear?

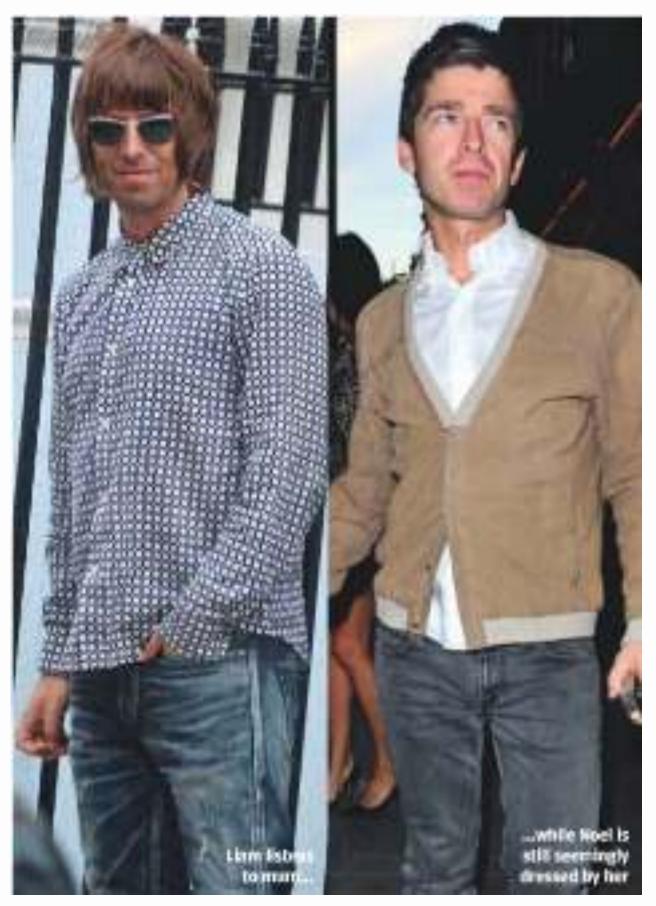
ehold the next chapter in the Oasis saga of doom, the grudging reconciliation, and the start of speculation as to the precise date of that reunion. After two years of public feuding, in the end all it took for them to reach a fragile peace was for Liam to call in the lawyers.

The bad blood between the pair became toxic last week when Liam announced that he was suing his brother for slander over comments made about the Oasis split in August 2009.

"I have taken legal action against Noel Gallagher for statements he made claiming Oasis pulled out of the 2009 V Festival Chelmsford gig because I had a hangover," read Liam's statement, issued through heavyweight libel-law firm Carter-Ruck. "That is a lie and I want Oasis fans and others who were at V to know the truth."

Noel's version of events – that Liam feigned a bout of laryngitis to get out of playing the Chelmsford leg of the festival – initially seemed to be backed up by *The Sun*'s publication of a picture of Liam backstage at the Stafford site the night before surrounded by a bevy of fans, triumphantly holding aloft a can of Guinness. The fan who sent the picture in claimed that, "After the gig in Staffordshire, Noel headed down to London. But Liam stayed and had a party in his trailer. He didn't seem to have anything wrong with his voice."

However, just a few days after Liam began legal proceedings, Nocl seemed to backtrack during a webcast with his friend Matt Morgan, admitting: "It is a fact that he was diagnosed with laryngitis and it is a fact that he had a doctor's note to prove it... if he gets offended by my opinions on such things then you know, I apologise, but it's all getting very silly." Two days later, Liam dropped his suit, apparently because the brothers' mum Peggy was upset. So, will this bring the whole sorry soap opera to an end? We wouldn't hold our breath.



REW WHITTON, EVERINE, EROTEME, XPOSUR

## SPEED DIAL ANDY BURROWS

He's been working with Mel C, Tom Editors, Ronson and We Are Scientists. But before all that – and his solo stuff – let's go straight to the big question, shall we?

## Hi Andy. So, let's talk Razorlight. What d'you make of the new line-up? And that hat!

"I haven't heard any of the songs, looking forward to the record, though. The bass dude wears a good hat, it's a strong look!"

Johnny told us recently that he was "still processing" having known you. How do you respond to that? "That's fair enough, I guess. We went

through a lot together and we achieved a great deal. We were really close."

Are you two on speaking terms? "Nope. We haven't spoken since the day I left. He seems very happy with his band now, though, which is good."

#### What about these rumours you're working with Mel C?

"We did a day's writing, that went well, and then we went out to watch Mark Ronson & The Business Intl at Abbey Road and we got ridiculously drunk and we then got in the studio far too late and never finished the song. That was the Andy Burrows/Mel Cwriting session. I don't think it's on her album."

#### OK, but speaking of Ronson, you are doing stuff with him, right?

"We were messing around with a band, with him and me and Andrew Wyatt of Miike Snow, but it's taken a back seat of late. Mirke Snow are making their record and Mark's been doing all kinds of stuff,



like working with Rufus Wainwright. That was at the beginning of the year -maybe it'll see the light of day."

#### What about We Are Scientists? Is there a new album on the way?

"We've started. We did some recording in LA last week - that went well. Keith is buggering off to do a bit of writing and

then we're gonna get back in [the studio] in October and hopefully finish it in January."

#### And solo stuff? Tell us about this new single you're doing.

is. I'm in the middle of doing the album at the moment. I'd like to release it next year, pre-summer. I'm doing bits and bobs with different people and some of it sounds a lot like 'If I Had A Heart' and some of it sounds different." Also you've been tweeting a bit

overdramatic relationship breakdown

songs! It sounds a lot more jolly than it

#### about this project with Tom from Editors - how do you know him?

"I knew his girlfriend Edith [Bowman] years ago, and me and Tom are friends we live just up the road from each other

and we started going to the pub together."

#### SPICE GIRLS COLLABORATIONS What made you work together?

OTHER CREDIBLE

Mel B & Missy Elliott

These two worked

Spice Girls solo single

"I Want You Back". It hit

Number One and

things went downhill from there...

Geri Halliwell &

New Radicals

world, sadly, failed to care.

Emma Bunton &

the girl from Ipanema

Baby's second album,

'Free Me', saw her flirting

with the bossanova canon

of Astrud Gilberto. It was,

literally, not terrible.

"We were doing the I Am Arrows tour last year, and he came and sang that Black tune, 'Wonderful Life' a few times. All of us kept saying we should get in the studio and record and we never did. Then about eight months later he sent me a demo of a really different version of it-abit Tom, and abit dark. My ears pricked up, I was like, 'Wow, this is stunning!"

#### When will the album come out?

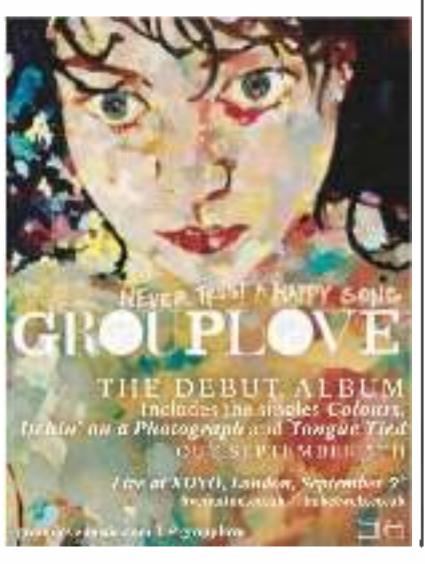
"I think December-it's slightly festive."

#### Are there jingle bells?

"As yet there are no jingle bells, but it's not too late, there's another week of overdubs, so we may put them in at NME's request. I'll put a credit for you in there."

"It's another one of my







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## RADAR

FUTURE STARS, BREAKING SCENES, NEW SOUNDS...

Edited by Matt Wilkinson



#### The man formerly known as Fred Les reconnects with his past to forge a Killers-shaped future

uch is the resilience of Spector singer Fred
Macpherson, you imagine that if you smashed him
in the face repeatedly with a cricket bat he'd merely
jerk back up, momentarily readjust his glasses, and
carry on with whatever he'd been doing before.
Whatever he was doing before is quite a lot. If

Whatever he was doing before is quite a lot. If there's a niggling feeling that you recognise him, it's probably because you were au fait with his Libs-lite also-rans Les Incompétents or black-clad Hoxton doom-ites Ox.Eagle.Lion. Man. Neither band would ignite, so after Ox.Eagle swallowed the suicide pill (Fred: "We'd just finished writing an 11-minute song called 'Father To Son' inspired by *Gladiator*. Time to take a break...") the frontman decided to stop pretending to be Nick Cave's nephew and began writing songs inspired by the music closest to his heart.

"It was about trying to connect with what music was from 2001 to 2003 – The Strokes, The Rapture, The Von Bondies, Yeah Yeah Yeahs, music for my 15-year-old self," he explains. "That's in my blood – and always will be."

With the songs in place Fred's old bandmate, ex-Les Inc guitarist Christopher Burman, convinced him to piece together another band at the end of 2010, enlisting drummer Danny Blandy, synth/guitar player Jed Cullen, then bassist Thomas Shickle after spotting his picture online (Fred: "I saw pictures and thought he's the kind of guy I'd like to get involved. A lot of girls knew him but I didn't see any guys who knew him, and that was a good sign").

The result of those songs is whooping, synth-laden rock reminiscent of The Walkmen mainlined into The Killers' chugga-train drive, as demonstrated best on debut single 'Never Fade Away'. An album is due to be recorded before the year ends and should be out at the start of the next one, thanks to a reportedly *massive* deal with Fiction. Musically, as Fred explains, their ambitions are simple but direct: "It's about the misery of trying to have a good time. Going out at the weekend, trying to forget working, but ending in this dark netherworld that's probably worse than working five days a week." *Jamie Fullerton* 

EED TO KNOW

BASED: Dalston, London

FOR FANS OF: The Vaccines,

The Killers

SEE THEM LIVE: Catch the band this September - they play Leeds (11), Sunderland (17) and London (26) BUY IT: 'What You Wanted' (single, out September 19)

"fine" with the band being called the "Dalston Kaiser Chiefs" - which is handy, as Spector are set to support Ricky and co in Leeds next month

### The Buzz

The rundown of the music, videos and scenes breaking forth from the underground this week



#### **BINNACLE FESTIVAL**

Wanna see the best new bands of the summer without having to spend months traipsing around every puke-sodden sweatbox in the country? Binnacle Festival is for you. Taking place at London's Old Blue Last on October 15-16, Binnacle already has a stellar line-up (still growing) featuring a frankly pulverising number of the most exciting new acts on earth right now. As well as grunge-meets-ELO stalwarts Gross Magic (pictured), expect to catch the melodic weirdness of Childhood, the sultry promise of Carousels and an array of fast-rising future Radar hopefuls like Regal Safari, Active Child and Acid Glasses (making their UK debut). For more line-up and ticket info, see *Binnacle.info* now.



#### 2 SISSY & THE BLISTERS

The Guildford four-piece are like a toytown version of The Horrors (circa their first album). After a couple of low-key singles they're back with 'Let Her Go', released on October 3. Head to NME.COM/blogs now to watch the video – charmingly filmed in a ruinous abandoned flat which doubles up as the drummer's home.



#### 3 MODERN PRIMITIVES -'IT'S A MAN'S, MAN'S, MAN'S WORLD' VID

There are at least three men in Charlotte, North Carolina, banking capital of the southeastern US, who won't be suiting up anytime soon. Modern Primitives' scuzzy live cover of James Brown's classic shows them not much reinterpreting as *violently upending* it.



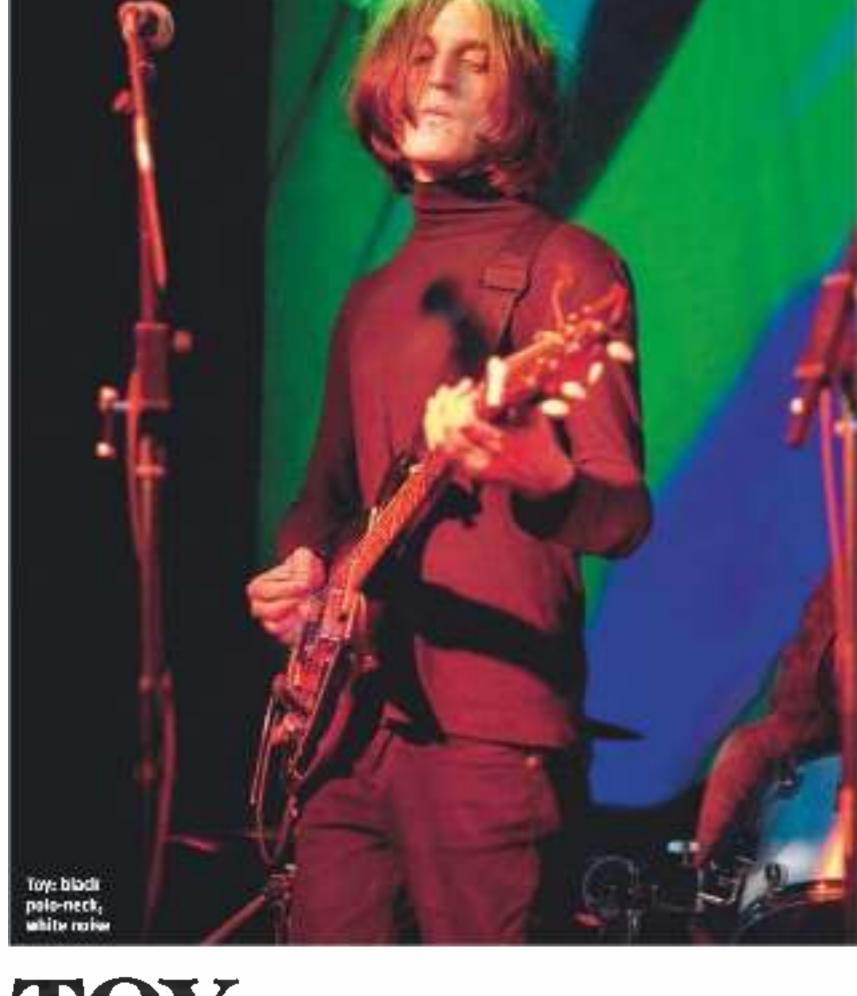
#### 4 TASHAKI MIYAKI

With only a handful of tracks currently online, the swoony Los Angeles group have recently started randomly uploading new songs to *Tashakimiyaki.bandcamp.com* – but only for a few days at a time. Current Radar favourite 'Best Friend' is undeniably worth your attention, though – just make sure you get it quick.



#### 5 CAGED ANIMALS MAKE FRIENDS AND TOUR

ESG-soundalikes Friends teaming up with Brooklyn nutjobs Caged Animals for their debut UK shows is certainly one for the diary. Starting in Manchester on September 27, and hitting London three days later, this one's very possibly the double-headed US-to-UK buzz tour of the year.



### BAND CRUSH HOXTON B

Baxter Dury on

his favourite

new band

"Luca C & Brigante

are two youngish

Latin dudes with a

flair for atmospheric

songs with Balearic

overtones. They're

camped between

London and Ibiza

and the music

strongly reflects

each place. It's

politely psychedelic

with a cloud of

comedown

blissfulness floating

through it. It's

brought my

attention to a genre

of music I had

previously ignored,

and I'm most

grateful for that."

#### HOXTON BAR & KITCHEN, LONDON TUESDAY, AUGUST 16

CAUGHT

The Hoxton Bar & Kitchen might be an unforgiving black box that whiffs slightly of socks and mildew, but Toy seem to

treat it like some kind of prism, filling the room with colourful, psychedelic sounds. Their haircuts – suggestive both of '70s nookie guide *The Joy Of Sex* and the sort of musicians who spent

and the sort of must much of the same decade holed up in English country cottages discussing fairies – are not exactly a good indicator of what to expect from this four man, one lady

group. But neither is the patronage of The Horrors, who are watching tonight and will shortly take Toy out on tour.

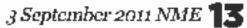
Instead, we're washed in the excitement of a band discovering itself, brimming with ideas – taut Peter Hook bassline here, folk flourish there, then a motorik build and the heady, distorted joy of 'Left Myself Behind' to close the set with. A carefree lo-fi sensibility for 'Lose My Way' is, we'll, what it is: Pavement sung by a good-looking

European in a black polo neck, smarter and better formed. 'When I Went Back' is very much of the English shoegaze tradition, but with the gas and whimsy condensed and drained away. 'Bright White Shimmering Sun' and 'Kopter' point to a kinship with Wire, who in the '70s managed to combine the thrum of punk with kaleidoscopic visions. Like Wire, Toy understand that psychedelia isn't signified by hair, or wigging out, or addled caravan yarns,

## They treat the room like a prism, filling it with colourful, psychedelic sound

but comes with artful darkness and shimmering minimalism.

The songs are sometimes still brittle sketches, but the likes of 'Clock Chimes' suggest they are draughtsman's plans around which something wonderful – with time and care – will surely form. And when they are ready (hopefully not overly packaged with an EC safety label stuck on the bottom) Toy will be perfect playthings. As things currently stand, they're not far off, *Luke Turner* 





### Peter Robinson Us

#### RIZZLE KICKS

Olly Murs' new best mate Jordan Stevens proves himself to be the politest man in pop



 $\mathcal{F}YI$ 

"He's just very

genuine." It's going

to take more than

that on the Olly

front, sorry

'Rizzle Kicks'

· "When I was

growing up and

people still bought

albums in shops."

There's a quote

to cheer up

anyone working

in music retail

The greyhound

stadium Jordan

refers to is a

stadium where

greyhounds race

each other, not a

stadium actually

made out of dogs

Hello, Jordan.

"Bongiorno! I'm just in the studio and I've just stood up... and now I'm on the patio area."

#### A PATIO! How swish.

"Well, we're in Shepherds Bush, I don't know how swish that is..."

#### It's good to stand up when you're doing a phone interview.

"If anything I will need to sit down to calm things down. I get a bit animated. I did have one interview where the interviewer asked something about female attention after gigs and I said we were continuously orbited by 12 stunning supermodels which made it difficult to get into places because of lack of room. Which was a good answer, I think."

#### I'd give it six out of 10.

"[Laughs] We've got a lot to learn about comedic responses."

#### So, Rizzle Kicks are the pop champions of the summer. You've had a hit record of your own, plus you've helped make it acceptable to like an Olly Murs single. You are certainly involved in Olly's 'new acceptability'. "Oh, that's cool!"

#### He's generally a bit annoying. But you have been present at the point where he is not annoying.

"Well, that's great. I'm glad that the people who perhaps don't think so highly of Olly think that we've brought out the better side of him."

#### Are you on the verge of telling me that he's alright really and is, in fact, a lovely guy?

"I'm not on the verge, I'll tell you straight up! He's genuinely... you know how there's some people who are just nice? I know that nice is a boring word, but he's just very genuine. You'd have to be a massive dickhead to dislike him."

#### You know the phrase, 'If loving you is wrong I don't want to be right? "Yes."

#### I'm thinking, 'If liking Olly Murs means I'm not a dickhead, I don't mind being a dickhead'.

"[Roars with laughter] I would like to say, I didn't actually call you a dickhead, I meant people who had a problem with him as a person. You were commenting on his music, no?"



#### Well, a bit of both really. "Oh dear, I'm sorry. I didn't mean that

at all."

#### We're only a few minutes into the conversation and you're already calling me a dickhead. That has to be a new record.

"(*Laughs more*) I don't mean that!"

You're a very polite pop star. "Thank you."

#### Obviously you're on your best behaviour now, but are you really a deeply unpleasant person?

"I don't think I'm unpleasant. I'm quite good with social stuff -- saying hello to people, talking bollocks. I could talk about anything, really."

#### How do you stop a conversation?

"I just cut it off. Just go, 'Good to see you', then start to walk. But you need to make sure you're going in the opposite direction from the person you're stopping the conversation with. It doesn't work if you say 'bye' then have to walk with them!"

#### Your single is good, but is the album going to be shit?

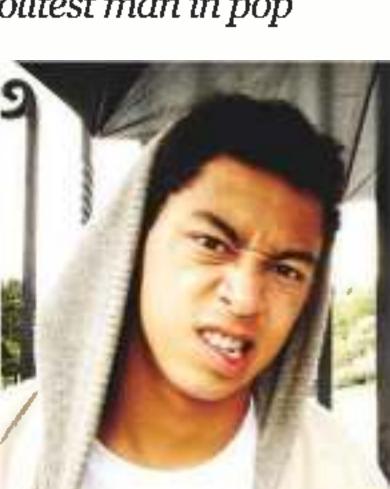
"We all know that that's often the symptom of a first album - when I was growing up and people still bought albums in shops, you'd buy an album off the back of a single, but the bottom line has to be that you like it and then you hope everyone else will like it."

#### What if you make an album and nobody likes it?

"I'd go back to working at the greyhound stadium I was at before this."

#### Good to see you.

"Bye!"



BOMBAY DICYCLE CLUB

'HOW DEEP IS YOUR LOVE?'

NOEL GALLAGHER'S HIGH

FLYING BIRDS THE DEATH OF

FOSTER THE PEOPLE

OU AND ME! SEE JEEP

ALTERNOVED AND

THE STROKES

A POUSED

KASABIAN

LANA BEL REY

VIDEO GAMES

BAGGIE' HOME

Charges

DAYS ARE FORGOTTEN'

MES NOT CHILL PEPPERS

TWO DOOR CINEMA CLUB

MINDERCOVER MARTYN

'RIGHT BEFORE MY EVES"

'THE HELLCAT SPANGLED

CAGE THE ELEPHANT

ARCTIC MONKEYS

SHALALALA' DITTO

THEORUMS

WOMEA.

HOWLER

Residence of the latest terminal

Labrain

BOAT VE

Distriction of

'SAPPHO'

31 ALOFD ACR ONCE,

GO OUTSIDE

Cabana di Bakara B

WITCHES BREW

FOO FIGHTERS

'ARLANDRIA

EXCUSES.

FOSTER THE PEOPLE

CALL IT WHAT YOU WANT

THE ADVINTURES OF RAIN DANCE

МАСНИ РЕССИИ

THE BAY

"PUMPED UP KICKS"

'SHUFFLE'

THE RAPTURE

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#### NME RADIO PLAYLIST

\* OH LAND "White Nights"

· MARINA & THE DIAMONDS

"Radioactive" \* MILES KANE

"Come Closer" \* FOSTER THE PEOPLE

"Helena Beat"

**e EDWARD SHARPE &** THE MAGNETIC ZEROES

'Home'

The MATE Chart I promptiles on a roundly business or the subspecial and digitalising in through read the saiding terraid retailers, treatmen retailers and digital marks corn corporations, all agics are eligible for the structural fitting says find a norther play is not like the food the or so the Magnetian.







## MPERFECT SYM

To play their second album in its entirety was a brave way to mark 10 years since its release, and Muse just about got away with it – but it was the greatest hits that really shot for the stars

MAIN STAGE, LEEDS, FRIDAY

rom Muse's point of view, coming off the end of an album that's now almost two years old and with one eye on getting into the studio to record its follow-up, there was no compelling reason to headline Reading and Leed this year. It they were going to do it - o the recording must have gone - it would have to be something special, something seminal, something people hadn't seen at one of their umpteen previous engagements at the festivals and football stadiums that have become like homes from home. Even so, the announcement that their

'something special' would be to play

the whole of their second album - 10 years old last month - was a bit of an eyebrow raiser. The current vogue for playing classic albums in their entirety is not one you'd expect Muse to embrace,

if only because it acknowledges

- however subtly – a certain sort of regression, a coming-to-terms with the fact that you're not quite as good as you used

to be. However great the album in question, however triumphant the gig itself might prove, these shows can still feel like a celebration of Sick Boy from

Trainspotting's unified theory of life had it, lost it, gone forever. Given their habit of making each new endeavour more ambitious and outlandish than the last - not to mention the fact that they're

"It's 10 years since 'Origin...'
We fancied playing the whole fucking thing" MATT BELLAMY

still very much in their prime - such nostalgia seemed out of character. 'Origin Of Symmetry', too, is a strange choice of album for a gig like this. It

made), their biggest-selling (that's 'Black Holes And Revelations') or even their best (it's all subjective, but 'Absolution' gets our vote). In terms of their career, however, it's probably their most important, standing out as the Muse-iest Muse album, the template for what they'd later become. But for the entry-level fans who hopped on the bandwagon after the last two albums ie, the people who repeatedly fill Wembley to see them - it's a hard sell. Tonight, then, is an oddity: a curate's egg or a set from the biggest band in Britam, not in a small one-off venue,

wasn't their debut (although playing

'Showbiz' from start to finish is hardly

the stuff of which great festival sets are



THEY'VE GOT THE CHOPS JACK SAVIDGE, FRIENDLY FIRES



SOMETHING TO BELIEVE IN OMAR SOULIMAN, 27, SHEFFIELD



but to 50,000 people. And we'd be lying if we said it was entirely successful

Credit where it's due, though: the show looks back to front, top-to-bottom, balls-tothe-wall spectacular. The set-up is constructed behind a vast curtain that is raised in tandem with the twinkling piano line of 'New Born' to reveal a physical recreation of 'Origin. "s cover, with those

distinctive esoteric antennaecum giant tuning forks creeted all over the stage.

They promised to push the envelope of what was possible at a festival, and given that the whole thing was thrown up in 45 minutes, we'd say they've succeeded. And that's before we even get to the flame cannons that erupt during 'Megalomania', or the eye-popping visuals projected throughout. The thought that's obviously

gone into the production and the attention to detail on display - even the fretboard of Christ Wolstenholme's

bass is studded with LEDs is remarkable.

Musically, too, it starts off superbly, with 'New Born's jackhammering guitar riff and the towering, ethereal 'Bliss' providing an oasis of familiarity. 'Space Dementia', however, a sprawling slice of prog-baroque barminess that hasn't been seen on a setlist since about 2006, is met politely but hardly ecstatically. The ultimate irony is that, despite a mood of ambivalence that sets in among certain sections of the crowd (three songs in, the guy next to us is already calling out for 'Hysteria'), it's the less celebrated tunes that are most interesting, at least to our cars. 'Plug In Baby' and 'Feeling Good' are great and all, but it's not like

you'll never hear them live

again. That doesn't apply to songs like 'Micro Cuts' or 'Darkshines'.

"We're celebrating to years since 'Origin Of Symmetry' came out." explains Matt Bellamy for all those still wondering what's going on after 'Citizen I rased'. "We fancied playing the whole fucking thing." An acquired taste it may be, but

'Origin...' only comprises half the set; the second hour, which kicks off with 'Uprising', is almost comically overstuffed with massive tunes, reeled off with a debonair nonchalance. If the first half was characterised by the uncertainty of its success, the second is as sure a thing as it's possible

to play at this festival. 'Supermassive Black Hole', 'Time Is Running Out', 'Starlight'... it's the mother of all safety nets, and the band themselves look a little more at ease on such familiar turf; without wishing to imply that his performance is in any way phoned-in (it's not) Bellamy probably could be lowered blindfolded into a pit of bloodlusty weasels and still send 'Knights Of Cydonia' spinning into the stratosphere I he second half is everything the first one isn't: populist, comfortingly familiar, and far more

suited to the occasion. Not to play those songs would be about

> as ballsy a move as Muse could pull off, but it would also be a gross dereliction of duty.

Ultimately, though, this evening was always going to be defined by how 'Origin...' played. The answer? So-so, or as well as could have been expected. For the hardcore, it was a fitting

send-off to a much-cherished album. For the masses, it was probably

just confusing. You've got to admire Muse's stones in playing a difficult, cultish album to a huge, hit ravenous crowd, but thank goodness they hedged their bets. Barry Nicolson

**VETLIST** 

- New Born Bliss
- Space Dementia
- Hyper Music
- Plug In Baby
- Citizen Erased Micro Cuts
- Screenager
- Darkshines
- Feeling Good
- Megalomania Uprising
- Supermassive Black
  - Hole Hysteria
- Time Is Running Out Helsinki Jam
- Undisclosed Desires
  - Resistance
  - Starlight
  - Stockholm Syndrome
- Knights Of Cydonia

THEY KNOW **HOW TO PUT ON A SHOW** PAUL TURP, 25, ELLESMERE PORT

**'ORIGIN OF** SYMMETRY' **BRENDON URIE,** PANIC! AT THE DISCO

The

second hour

is almost

comically stuffed with

massive

tunes



THE GRAFT TARA HARDING, 21, MILTON KEYNES



## PULP VS THE STROKES

The big question of the weekend: who would triumph between the co-headlining heavyweights? But it was when they came together onstage that Reading's real I was there' moment arrived

**MAIN STAGE** READING, SATURDAY

am not Jesus," Jarvis Cocker once declared in song, "Though I have the same initials" He's not the only one. Julian Casablancas, too, knows what it is to be mistaken for The Messiah, both alphabetically, and as a generational figure onto whom people project their hopes and dreams.

It's not the only uncanny coincidence

in tonight's 'co-headline' set-up. At Reading 2002, the bill was topped for the first time by The Strokes. Just underneath them, Pulp. Arguably, both bands are now in even stronger positions than they were back then. Pulp come to us having received some of the strongest reviews for any reunion tour ever. There was that Glastonbury secret show, of course, that came close to matching their '95 set in terms of inducing mass cuphoria. And Julian's

lot? Well, while 'Angles' didn't catch the wind as much as they'd hoped, The Strokes now have four albums to choose from rather than just playing their first record end-to-end and back again.

Anniversaries and weird serendipities hang heavy in the air. It is exactly to years to-the-bloody-day since 'I This It' received a Uk release. It is 17 years to-the bloody day, as Jarvis reminds us several times, since Pulp first played Reading, "I remember shitting myself

trying to finish the words to this particular song just before we were about to play," Jarvis tells the crowd That song was 'Common People'. It was the first time they'd ever played it. "My friend turned to me afterwards and said: 'You've written a one there." A one. The one. The glittering millstone round their necks - "If we're only remembered for this song that's fine. Black Lace are only known for 'Agadoo'" - that they wear with such



### When JC met JC

#### Backstage with the Cocker/Casablancas dream team

ANDY WILLSHER, HME PROTOGRAPHER: "There had been rumours all morning that The Strokes had been grounded in New York due to Hurricane Irene, so it was a relief to see Julian walk into the catering tent at about 6,30pm. He arrived first for the photoshoot, too, which was backstage by

both bands' dressing rooms. He seemed pretty nervous until Jarvis arrived, at which point his mood completely lightened. Jarvis and Julian greeted each other by shaking hands (Julian told me they had met once before), but as soon as the formalities were over, they started joking around,

dancing, holding hands and putting their arms around each other, After the photos were over, they went off for a quiet chat. I overheard something about a cover version, but didn't realise until they were both onstage together that they were plotting a Reading and Leeds collaboration?"



BANTER

Sample: "You have to admire a guy who can keep a tongue on a vagina so long."

Like a man from outer space trying to sell you a timeshare.

#### **CROWD**

Not as big as you might have thought. More restless than you might think,

Pretty big.
Buoyed by the cancellation of Jane's Addiction's slot on the NME/Radio 1 Stage.

#### **SHOES**

Restrained loafers and sensible boating-style shoes. But what did you nec You have to be a high-ranking rockstar to be legally allowed to own Julian's limegreen trainers.

#### **BIGGEST ANTHEM**

Common People

 everyone pretty much rips their own faces off with sheer joy. the boozy Radio 1-facing facade to their arsenal.

good grace comes inevitably last, in a set that he and Pulp have mapped out to be as crowd-pleasing as humanly possible

At the same time, drawing so strongly on the 'Different Class' tracks, they're a little less fan-pleasing. The hardcore might like to be treated to a 'Lipgloss', or maybe even a 'Weeds'—a far more sage nod to broke-ass Britain than the dedication of 'Joyriders' to "all those people who were playing real-life Grand Theft Auto the other week". The nerds do at least get their specialness in the form of Mr Richard Hawley, who sneaks onstage with a guitar sometime around 'Sunrise' A great set, if not quite the stone-cold classic we were all anticipating.

While Jarvis is all silver-tongued tangents, tales about the invention of petrol and monitor-humping joygasm, his opposite is, well, if you had to choose nine words to describe Julian Casablancas, they'd probably be "not too good at all that tall m<sub>B</sub> and stuff". He never makes it easy on himself.

"...I'm just staring at people. It's what I do. I'm an observer...", "We don't care... I mean, I appliese ..." are some of his more intelligible non-sequiturs. He, seems to want to connect — practically

yearning to – but there's another part of him that, even here, can't let go of the awkwardness. At times you just want to jump past the security, clamber up there and shake him.

Thank god, then, that Julian can fall back on being helmsman of a peerlessly great rock'n'roll band. Ten years and 22 hours into its life, 'Is This It' remains as fresh as the day it was born. The band would seem to agree; eight of its 11 tracks are aired tonight. Back in 2003, Julian was reported to be dishing out instructions to Gordon Raphael to "make the drums sound like they're from 2012". As it stands, one year away from that, only three of

into the setlist.

'Juicebox', by contrast, gets a massive reception – far from being the underwhelming comeback it seemed at the time, it's mutated into one of their facest hours. Only the 'Angles' stuff sounds a bit roughed-out

'Room On Fire's songs are making it

even the future-tropicalia of 'Macchu Picchu' struggles for traction.

"Oh . I'm gonna tuck this up..." Julian mumbles, after 'Alone, Together'.
"Give it up for The Jarv.." And lo—there is The Jarv (Cocker himself), tweeded up and ready to pitch in on

Both are arguably in a bener position

than they

n 2001

What I Needed'. It would be One Of Those Immortal Festival Moments if it weren't fo the mic troubles (Julian's vocals are coming through insanely loud, Jarvis' whisper-quiet). Instead, it has to settle for being Pretty Great. Julian and co arrived onstage 20 minutes late, so

by 11:35 stage managers are staging impromptu conferences with the band between songs. At 11:45, their curfew busting going full-blown criminal, they exit with a red-blooded 'Take It Or Leave It'. Amen to St Jarvis and all that, but for delivering 18 shimmering reasons why we should still care about them, tonight The Strokes win by TKO. Gavin aynes





## KILLIOYS' REVENGE

Last time around it ended in piss, broken glass and ignominy. In 2011 My Chemical Romance come back fighting and prove they know how to throw one hell of a party



MAIN STAGE LEEDS, SATURDAY

o I come out, I look like a super creep, I have white hair, everything about me says, 'Throw piss at me'." You can call Gerard Way many things, but don't accuse him of not being self-aware. He's talking backstage at the midpoint between two careerdefining shows at Reading and Leeds 2011, remembering the last time his band, My Chemical Romance, played here,

back in 2006 He can laugh about it now.

"It's not simply, 'We got bottled because everybody in the fucking world hated us. We had to play after goddam Slayer! "The Black

Parade' hadn't come out and nobody had heard it So we came out and there's about 15-20 kids who were dichard metalheads saying stuff, and I am in an extra combative mood and I say... 'Alright Reading, fuck it, give me all you've got!""

Most people in that situation might have a little cry and move on. Not Gerard Way. Gerard swore to his brother Mikey that he wouldn't come back to this festival without headlining. He then made sure his band became amazing and popular enough to one day get booked to headline. So when that dream came true, he did the logical thing under the circumstances and referred to Queen. Queen, you see, were famously bottled in Paris one year.

A defiant Freddie Mercury had sworn to return as the biggest band in the world. Gerard made the only rational decision one could make in that situation wouldn't come he pinched producer Rob Cavallo's phone book, copied down festival without Brian May's email and sent a whoring message out, explaining their dilemma. A dialogue developed Gerard posited the idea of Brian joining them onstage at Reading. Brian had various questions. It was nailed with Brian's immortal line: "Now we've got the

Saturday afternoon, Leeds Festival, and Gerard Way is describing Reading 2011 as the greatest show of his life. So we push him for expansion. "The best shows are the ones where there's a lot riding on it and everything to lose and the unknown, you

don't know what's gonna happen. All we focused on for six months was making that as bright and brilliant and wonderful and colourful as we could. I remember that last interview we did I said when the temperature is up for us, then that' when we shine and so to come out to that reaction, and to give 'Danger Days...' the proper show that it deserved - that was what

was in my head when we made the record, to give it the colour and the party and the danger, just to colour up on the world."

(le, far less piss onstage this time)

And so it was. Having made such a big pre-show of their Fabulous Killjoy alter egos, MCR had spent their entire touring campaign playing them down. But now, Party Poison, Fun Ghoul, Kobra Kid and Jet Star make their first ever public appearance, and yet stuttering behind the stage, smoking ill advised pre show fags while hoiking his arse-crack-chafing leather pants into a comfortable space, Gerard confesses: "We played at T In The Park and I went to see Deadmaus, and there were kids with road flares and laser pens, and I was jealous. Because that was what I had envisaged the whole of 'Danger Days...' as being, just colourful anarchy.

Gerard

swore he

back to this

headlining

And that's what we got last night." Colourful anarchy works for MCR, judging on the fireworks and pink smokebombs that greet 'Na Na Na (Na Na Na Na Na Na)' as it boings into Tm Not Okay (I Promisc)'. But what's remarkable is how they maintain that level of adrenalme after the initial expensive flourish, and everything fall wildly into place. Because

pyro exists only to support the song. Witness further come-book-stadium redemption of 'Tamous Last Words', the idiotic punk of 'Teenagers' and, for its live debut, the post-nuclear thunderballad 'S/C/A/R/E/C/R/O/W'. And that's the truth of it. At the end there's the 'Cancer' song and 'Welcome To The Black Parade' and confetti cannons.

Confetti cannons! Always good. But what really shines is that we have truly never seen any band, ever, try and give so much to any performance ever. And that counts.

To witness Gerard, as he leaves for the bus: "I want youth, I want chaos, I want love affairs, I want people falling in love, I want people proud of their favourite fucking punk band they saw in a basement. It's what I wanted. And I got at." Dan Martin





## WAY OF THE GAZELLE?

The rest of the bill does its best to get inside the heads of MCR. The results are a bit weird...

#### KYLE FALCONER, THE VIEW



I get power from the animal spiri**ts** when

I'm at festivals. At T In The Park I am the lion, and at Reading and Leeds Lam the monkey. What is your spirit animal? Gerard: "We actually talked about this! Mikey's is the shark and mine is the gazelle. I've always had a connection with the gazelle because the gazelle is constantly outrunning its predators. It gets by on speed as opposed to strength. Mikey just can't stand still at all, period. He cannot concentrate on one thing for more than five seconds. And he

#### DAVID BEADLER, THE NAKED AND FAMOUS

loves eating people."



Who would you marry, bang and kill out of Axl Rose, Bret Michaels and Vince Neil circa 1989?

"I wouldn't kill any of them because that would just start a beef, so Axi Rose I'd probably marry. I don't want to bang any of them, but I like all of them. The first record I bought was a Poison record so I have no way to answer that. I'd marry all of them. It'd be a pretty interesting household."

#### JAMES BROWN, PULLED APART BY HORSES



dye my hair red.
"It actually comes from
Britain, I believe. It's
called Fudge, it stays
the longest. It's two
colours, 'Cherry Bomb'
and another kind of
orange. It comes in a
plastic tube that almost
looks like special effects
tube. It's a nightmare
with pillowcases."

#### JOE MOUNT, METRONOMY



Would you like to join us in praising Captain

Strauss and the boys following their rise to Number One World Test Ranking?

"If we were around then absolutely, yeah, because I would also like to learn about cricket too. Maybe we could watch a cricket game and he could explain to me, because I'm American and I find it really confusing. It's fun to watch, but I really don't know anything about what's going on."

#### HONOR TITUS, CEREBRAL



Who is
Gerard
Way?
"He's the
brother of

Mikey Way, the husband of Lyn-Z and the father of Bandit Way."

## "WE'RE MORE THAN APOLOGETIC"

The inside story on **Jane's Addiction's** 11th-hour cancellation, and what happens next

erry's not going to be jamming with them tonight, he has a throat problem," says a tour manager learly trained in a sideline a guide to the Jane's Addiction Jamalong Jamborce, "but the others are quite competent musically..."

The to NMI competition winners selected to join Jane's Addiction for their pre-gig, warm-up jam nod nervously in a muddy corridor behind the NME/Radio i Stage, before being ushered into what will transpire to be the only Jane's Addiction performance at Reading 2011. In a Portakabin with a couple of amps and a leaning fern, Dave Navarro, Stephen Perkins and Chris Chaney hammer out fret-shredding funk-punk like they've played every gig of their lives in a glorified train carriage.

Making Perry Farrell's

Jane's Addiction songs you'd like to hear?" A cry goes up for 'Ocean Size', but our winners are too timid to take the vacant mic, despite Dave's entreaties. "I'm a massive fan of Dave Navarro, love 'Strays', I thought that was an amazing album," says Ben Williams, 27, from Swansea, "but I just can't sing."

When Ben requests 'Just Because' then ducks vocal duties, 2" year-old Fmily from London steps in to provide soulful frontage to a rapturous reception from Dave, little knowing she'd be the best singer he'd play with today. Rather than recruiting a set-saving front-person though, he's keener on getting to know the fan at the back of the room who wants a picture of his tats. "You can look at these all night long if you want..."

Later on, though, it all goes wrong:

Perry "literally can't speak", and Jane's are forced to pull their show at the 11th hour. We speak to Dave, now in his hotel back in London, and you can hear the heartbreak. "We're more than sincerely apologetic to all our fans who came to see us," he says "We'll definitely make these shows up, I don't know when or where, but we will. We will be back."



ARD JOHNSON, VICTOR FRANKOWSK

last-minute replacement

## 20 SETS YOU HAD TO SEE

From Two Door Cinema Club drawing a headline-sized crowd to Friendly Fires reinventing the concept of dancing, here's our round-up of the other moments you shouldn't have missed



Foster
The People
FESTIVAL REPUBLIT STAGE, **READING.** FRIDAY

It's always a good sign when the crowd sing along - but it's a sign you've got each and every one of them nibbling from your palms when they're caught humming a bassline in unison. And Foster The People's people go just as demented for each and every one of their precision-tooled monsters. TC 

With rows of fans dressed as trannies (at the bar 1, equest), and a striking numb r of croy I malongs, Tribes' Reading set is celebratory, to say the least. In their heads they're playing Wembley, and as frontman Johnny Lloyd commands the stage like a total pro, you start realising their full potential. And it feels like the start of something good... real good. MW



Class Again, ches" YOUNGA' OL Againg

Lesgins have yet country



Best Coast
NME/RADIO 1 STAGE, **LEEDS, FRIDAY** 

For all this chat about Bethany

Cosentino going country, Bethany going riot grrrl, from this afternoon's performance, it's clear: the new Best Coast direction is Courtney Love circa

1998. Maybe Cosentino's just in a grump - she has been mega ill, as she admits - but today there's little of 'Crazy For You's sunniness in the air. The guitars are thick and droney, and all those lovelorn lyrics are delivered as if she'd rather be at home injecting Benylin into her eyeballs. It's dark, and awesome. LS

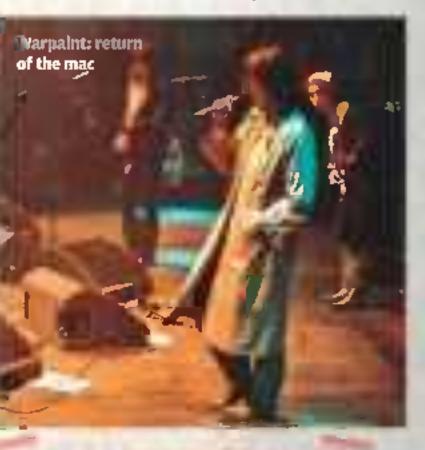


When Oliver Sykes instigates a

festival-wide circle pit, Reading turns into a stampeding Serengeti. Sheffield's Bring fe The Horizon play the usual Reading Rock Day throaty emo rock bullshit, but that's not really the point; in your face Twitter, only punk rock can orchestrate such wanton, exhilarating chaos. MB

Warpaint NME/RADIO 1 STAGE, **LEEDS, FRIDAY** 

Last time we were caught skulking round a field in flasher mac and wellies we got a faceful of mace for our troubles, but we've yet to attain fashion icon status like Emily Kokal. The Warpaint guitarist is on scintillating form, and her band's silky midnight jams are powered by the liquid rhythm section of bassist Jenny Lee Lindberg and drummer Stella Mogzawa. AD



## The Joy Formidable BBC INTRODUCING STAGE, READING, SATURDAY

"It's always nice to give something back," the band tell NME following their impromptu acoustic set for a couple of hundred folks. Celebrating the arena that gave them their Reading debut in 2007, the band smash it, just as they did during their Main Stage slot earlier in the day. That was amazing, but this was the one to see. TG

#### 



## Noah & The Whale NME/RADIO 1 STAGE, LEEDS, SATURDAY

When they pipe an orchestral

'Bohemian Rhapsody' over the PA you worry Noah & The Whale might be outdone by their intro music. But the set is glorious. The band are clearly vibing off the huge crowd, with Charlie Fink throwing Jarvis-esque shapes to 'Give It All Back' and tossing sweets into the crowd after 'Life Is Life'. BN

### Death From Above 1979 NME/RADIO 1 STAGE,

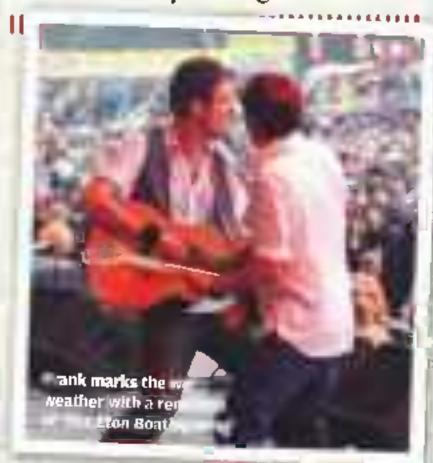
LE TJ, F HDAY

one bitching album, split, then reunite for one summer to milk that cash cow hard. 'You're A Woman, I'm A Machine's electroclash bastardised blues is 57 times gnarlier than anything else today, so no matter that most of the crowd were 12 when it came out, they yelp along to every chug and serawl. LS



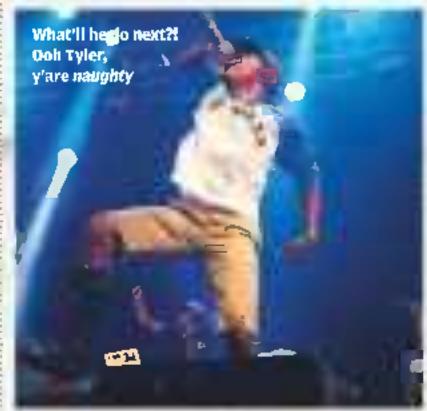
### Friendly Fires MAIN STAGE, LEEDS, SATURDAY

As we have seen frequently over their triumphant summer, Ed Macfarlane is a hard dancemaster, and even the near-endless drizzle can't stop those hips. 'Live Those Days Tonight' provides an early weekend highlight, Jack and Edd perfecting their damp sex faces as Mr Macfarlane strives to thrust the festival to the next level via the medium of crazy dancing alone. EM



### Turner MAIN STAGE, LEEDS, FRIDAY

Deathlessly earnest as Frank Turner's hollering about believing in the spirit of The Clash etc etc etc might be you can't deny the heroic, chest beating quality of his songs. Plus, any man who can get the entire Main Stage crowd to sit on the ground – right now resembling a quagmire – so that they might rise up together in a display of unity clearly has some skills. DM



### Odd Future NME/RADIO 1 STAGE, READING, SATURDAY

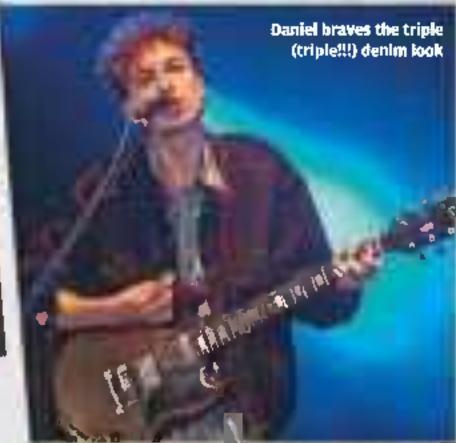
'Bitch'-smacking banter is tossed around willy-tolly. Iyler, The Creator, broken toot and all, rides onstage on a pink girl bik mimes a blow job, tells the film crew he "don't like you", dives in the crowd and comes back topless, croaking, "I hope that was a girl that grabbed my dick". But, for all the over-hype, the sheer thrill of Odd Future utterly win Reading over. MB



### Yuck NME/RADIO 1 STAGE, READING, SATURDAY

So, Yuck are essentially the anti-Bring Me The Horizon. Checklists out, slacker rockers, largely inaudible honeyed harmonies giving you a teasing tickle of the tune (tick), guitars distorted to a furry fuzz (yup), enigmatic bassist battling runaway fringe issues (gotcha), 'characterful' drummer (uh huh). They even have a singer, Daniel Blumberg, who performs like an animatronic waxwork of a young Bob Dylan that's slipped sideways off its pedestal and started picking up a Wi Fi feed of Slanted And Enchanted' on Spottly Thankfully, their on are far more animated than the players: 'Georgia' i a punch, 'arly '90s fuzztoned classic, and 'Get Away' is a perfect a collision of the Pixies' 'Tame' and Pavement's 'Cut Your Hair'. MB





#### BACKSTAGE BANTER

The stars' most memorable moments of the weekend



#### TWO DOOR **CINEMA CLUB**

Sam

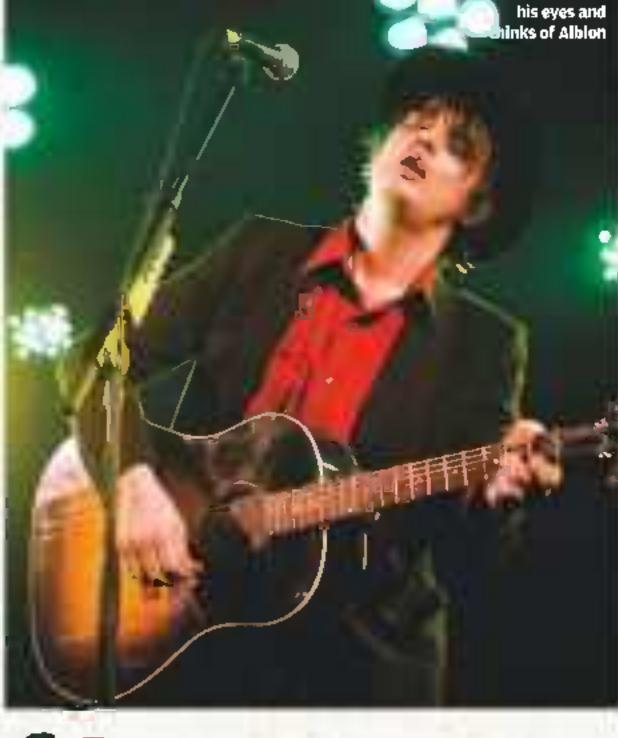
"We had to kick the son of one of the guys from Madness out of our dressing room. He came in and was like, 'Oh, I'm just getting a beer."



#### **EVERYTHING EVERYTHING**

Jeremy

"I saw a pair of tits onstage which has never happened at an Everything Everything gig before and I doubt it will ever happen again."



Pete Doherty STAGE, LEEDS, FRIDAY As the spinal surgery-

precise 'Origin Of Symmetry' opus unfolds outside, you can't help but laugh in this tent. Returning to the scene of the triumphant 2010 Libs reunion tonight bankers such as 'What A Waster' or 'Time For Heroes' are

tunes that stir, but in the sense that they're triggering 12 month-old memories rather than creating any new ones. An admittedly touching Amy Winehouse cap-doff in Tears Dry On Their Own' then - yup - 'l uck Forever' proves that the gig Doherty disciples really thought could be The Comeback was just... another Pete-Dohertywith-a-guitar show. JF

Pete closes

Cinema Club

MAIN STAGE, READING,

After 24 hours of mud,

rain and falling over in the

mud and rain, Two Door

Cinema Club finally bring

out the sunshine through

the power of positivity.

headline sized crowd to

Drawing a nigh-on

SATURDAY

their afternoon set, the Two Door lads incite more peopleon-shoulders, boobflashing and general joy than anyone thus far. As the opening guitar twinkles of 'Something Good Can Work' kick in, a sea of thousands uniformly justify the quartet's move to the main stage, and as 'I Can Talk' closes the set the sun slopes back in in unison. LW



#### THE NAKED AND **FAMOUS**

Alisa

"Someone asked me to sign their cheek, and someone asked if they could stroke my hair. Het them and it made me feel like a cat. In a good way."

#### DANANANA-NAYKROYD

"We were opening the NME/Radio 1 Stage today. I thought everyone would just stay in their tents. But by the end of our set the tent was full."

Duncan



#### CAGE THE ELEPHANT Matt

"We heard Muse were lassoing the moon closer to Earth for their set. We have to compete - we decided to burn ourselves onstage."



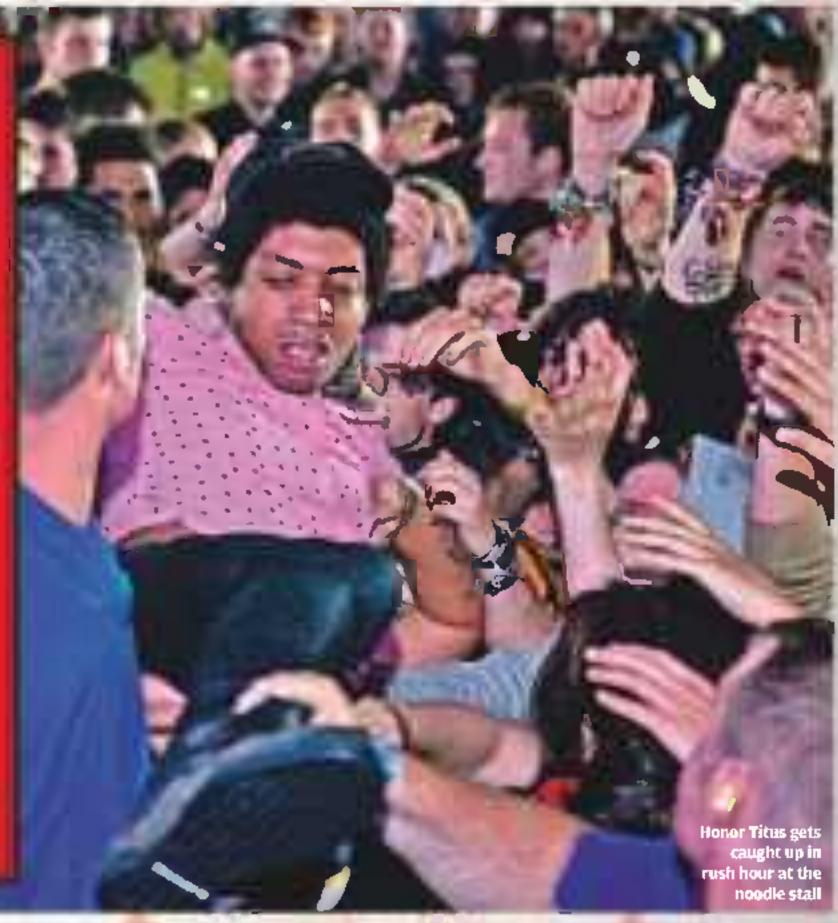
#### VIVA BROTHER Lee

"My friend Dan tried to piss in a cup. I wasn't having it, so I pushed him. He fell over and wiped

piss on my mouth.

Fancy a smooch?"





## The Horrors FESTIVAL REPUBLIC STAGE, READING, FRIDAY

"Thank you all very much for treating us," Faris Badwan

says by way of wooing the heaving mass gathered before the Festival Republic stage. He's three-quarters of the way through his band's first ever Reading headline set, and these are the first words he's uttered all night. In one fell swoop the mood lightens—from tense but totally invigorating freak schtick to unabridged euphoria.

They've always been an icy prospect, The Horrors, but tonight they take it to the max. They turn the likes of 'Who Can Say' and 'Three Decades' into dirty pogo singalongs. When they do a 180, as on 'Sea Within A Sea' - finally realising its true, beatific potential live after two full years of honing and sculpting in doomy arenas - they simply assume the mantle of being the most atmospheric pop dwellers this decade full stop. Everything they do from 'Skying' is greeted with mass enthusiasm by the crowd, not least on set-closer 'Moving Further Away', for which the band are joined by four mini-me guitarists from the cream of the

crop of London's Skinny Jean Society<sup>TM</sup> (Jerome Watson from The History Of Apple Pic, Edgar Smith and Luke Tristram from Advert as well as Freddie Cowan - returning the favour after bro' Tom came on during The Vaccines' set carlier today).

The sound,
which they all
twist into a mesmeric
15-minute wigout,
is insancly loud—
and surprisingly
tuneful, all things
considered.
Sidestage, Graham
Coxon stands
nodding his head.
He was supposed
to play with them

too, but turned up too late to confirm it. "I thought if I did it too," Coxon winces, "that all those young mopheads'd be thinking, 'Who's that old git?" They don't need me!" He's by no means done and dusted, Graham, but he's totally right... MW





#### Bombay Bicycle Club

NME/RADIO 1 STAGE, READING, SATURDAY

Ten minutes before stagetime and Bombay Bicycle Club are shitting it. Drummer Suren De Saram requests multiple voolka and Cokes to calm his nerves, while Jack Steadman tentatively admits:

The crowd

"It's difficult at a festival because everyone wants to hear the old stuff. But we're gonna do a load of new ones."

New album

New album
'A Different
Kind Of Fix' is
being released on
Monday, and this
very gig is kicking

off a weekend of celebrations for its creators. If only things could just go to plan...

As they rattle through the hits, the crowd swirls into a veritable orgy of unrequited love for them. Then they play the new ones – standing close for the riff-tastic 'Your Eyes' and becoming altogether more anarchic for

'Bad Timing'. The audience lap it up, but backstage afterwards Jack sits alone at a plastic table, sandwiched between the dressing rooms of The Kills and Jane's Addiction. He looks glum, but tells us that "the gig was the happiest I've ever been", before going off and accidentally onpurpose spraying Jane's' compound with beer during NME's post-gig photoshoot. As their enraged manager tells us to move on

Jed Taises a smile – she's

number all week because
they played too
loud in
rehearsals, and
now he's got his
own back.
So why the
sad face?
"There was a
point where
everything went
wrong – in 'Shuffle', we

all came in at the wrong time. I was in a bad mood because I thought it runed the whole gig."

It's fine, we tell him.

"No, no, no! It is fine! I just realised—the reason is because I couldn't hear anything because the crowd were clapping so loud! That's surely the coolest mistake you can ever have, right?!" Too bloody right. MW

## YES, WE WANNA!

After ruling at Reading, Justin and co repeat the feat at Leeds, with a set that proves they're ready for the big league. Main Stage next year...

The Vaccines NME/RADIO 1 STAGE, **LEEDS, SATURDAY** 

So, no pressure, but The Vaccines are the biggest new band of the year. They're on the verge of making the crossover into the Mumfordstream, among the Proper Big Festival Bands. "At the beginning of the year we had a lot of hype and expectation," says a nervous Justin Young before they go onstage at Leeds. "That doesn't win you fans, it doesn't mean anything. But this

festival means everything."

Fortunately the tent seems primed for a moment of triumph, and not their first of this weekend. Last night, their Reading set was packed as fuck, and tipped into legendary status when they were joined "because I need more Cowan to my right!" granted Justin - by Freddie's brother Tom

on keyboards for 'Good Guys (Don't Wear White)' and 'Nørgaard' (Freddie, of course, later returned the favour). At the side of the stage, all of the other Horrors looked on, grinning. Over on the Main Stage, the same old cartoon punk band - now over 40 but still in those awful shorts -were playing the same old songs to the same old fans. The new guard were in the tent. In Leeds, The Offspring are made to look redundant for a second night. because there's no one in The Vaccines' audience old enough to get into All Bar One. They are a band that belong to a new generation: all around us people are deep-tongue snogging and downing smuggled plastic bottles of spirits. As

the band arrive onstage there's such a playground fervour one poor girl gets a mud clod in her eye.

"How you doing, Leeds?" says Justin nonchalantly to ear-splitting screams. There's a glint in his eves as he throws his leather jacket off one shoulder and whispers, "This is going to be fun."

From the off, there's something rather grand about their normally lost set up. 'Wet Suit' is played out almost in epic Chariots Of Fire style slow motion.

"Look at Justin! He's beautiful!" bawls a girl next to us. While we're not sure if that's strictly true, one girl's devotion

everything"

is an indicator of the widespread goodwill. And what of the songs?

There's no denying that these melodies and estival means lyrics are Kev Stage 2 simple. Single words are stretched over eight bars. "Na"s DUSTIN YOUNG "ra"s and "la"s are used more liberally than at a Teletubbies script read through. But that's the whole point: they

say a lot with a little and these songs are in a grand tradition of forthright pop, from 'Blitzkrieg Bop' to 'Smells Like Teen Spirit' to 'I Predict A Riot'. That accessibility provides something that's crucial to the Reading and Leeds experience.

Perhaps that's part of the reason, as well, that we don't notice until about 20 minutes in that Justin is completely wasted. "You gutsss to givee it the mwoosst faaw this wunnn," he slurs, launching into a spectacular 'If You Wanna', which explodes in enraptured, chanting glory. The all-in-this-together atmosphere recalls The Strokes in their prime, and makes you realise just how ready the The

Vaccines are to take on that mantle. The set ends with Justin in the front row, spinning around in his own miccable. After he disappears and the music stops, the rest of the band come down and just sort of fall into their fans, being groped and glorified for the last time this summer. Tonight The second win in two days. Offstage they celebra e in spraying cans of cider over

"This weckend is the culmination of 10 years of playing in bands and a work ethic that has seen us have one day at home in the last six months," says Justin back in the dressing room So has it paid it off? "You know we always thought we were a really good band. It just makes me really happy that all of these people seem to agree. I feel like we're



### Tom and Freddie team up



How The Horrors and The Vaccines made R&L a family party

Tom: "Freddie!"

Freddie: "This was the first festival we ever came to, in 2002, when The Strokes played with Puip. And we wanted to

celebrate that we were both playing because it's amazing to both be doing it." T: "That's it - as brothers it's such an

unusual thing to do - and I can't really think of anyone I'd rather play with, actually."

WHAT IS NOT THE OWNER, NAMED IN

T: "It was great. I was really terrified when I went up!"

F: "I was terrified when I went up with you too! You're taken out your comfort zone!"

T: "Well, it seems a shame to be brothers and play music and then not play music together. So yeah, more playing together..."

T: "Well, most brothers do, I believe!"

F: "What's more important than family, eh?"

#### Him and his Heartstrings did a Domino's ad, so that makes them experts

he 'second album fund', we call it. Basically no-one buys music anymore, and someone came along and said, 'We'll give you a shitload of cash if you let us use one of your songs on a pizza advert'. We said, 'Can we get free pizzas as well?' and they said, 'Yes,' so we said, 'We'll do it." Since Frankie & The Heartstrings have stuffed their financial crusts with

dough from Domino's, who better than Frankie and moustachioed drummer Dave to help us judge the quality of Reading Festival's deep-pan delights?



#### **PASTA KING**

More like a bruschetta slab than a grown-up pizza.

Frankie: "Soft on the inside, crunchy on the outside."

Dave: "That's alright, that. That's better than me wife."

Is it better than Domino's? Dave: "If we got the same cheque that we got off Domino's, I'd suck dick for this pizza."

#### TASTE OF ITALY

What did you expect? Tom and Pete (left)

and Arni and Justin (above)

Six pounds for a festival pizza! Frankie: "That looks disgusting" Dave: "It looks like a burns victim. I caught my mum and dad having sex once - that tasted better than this. It tastes like wrong-doing." Is it better than Domino's? Frankie: "I'd rather eat a domino. That was no Taste Of Italy, that was Taste Of Shitaly."



#### **PIZZERIA**

Our festival pizza of choice. Dave: "It's got a slippery quality, like so many women in my life. For the tomato sauce, you've got to use basil, freshly ground pepper and oregano. That's not oregano, it tastes more like fennel."

Is it better than Domino's? Dave: "There's no cheque underneath it, so it doesn't compare."



Mama mia! This one's seven pounds! Dave: "(To server) Can we have some pizza with this pizza?"

Server: "If you don't like it, don't pay for it."

Is it better than Domino's? Frankie: "Would you feed that to your dad?"

Dave: "Yeah."

Frankie: "He hates his dad."



#### THE PIZZA CO.

An unidentifiable concoction. Frankie: "Ooh, it's got a bit of colour." Dave: "It feels like it's been there since the '90s. Did Nirvana make this? It tastes like a dead lass," Is it better than Domino's? Dave: "It's better than the song." Frankie: "We sold our souls to possibly the best pizza ever."

## WHO'S THE MOST FA



"Miles doesn't do wellies," his manager tells us as the heavens open across Richfield Avenue for the 37th time on Friday morning. Momentarily, our proposed meet-the-fans walkabout looks to be on perilously rocky ground - there are pristine performance suits to be saved, after all. But he's a total trouper. Suddenly he appears through the

misty fug, tanned and resplendent in chic
Italian three-quarter-length leather jacket,
mega-expensive jeans and – yes – a pair of
Hunters. We head into the throng of the NME,
Radio 1 Stage where Mona are dying a 'meh'
death (Miles reckons he got "four times"
their amount of fans for his gig) and it takes
precisely 16 seconds before he's mobbed by
the first gaggle of starry-eyed kids. "Sign

this!", "I looooove you Miles!!", "Sign my hard hat!!!". This mad process - the group photos, mass hugs, people literally running across the site shouting at him - happens 11 times in total. In six minutes. We get about 10 metres outside the perimeter of the tent before management are forced to usher him backstage again. And Miles just about lives to tell the tale.

57

Passer-by who sees Miles and automatically assumes that NME, walking alongside him, is Alex Turner

At least 10

## MOUS?

What's worse than being mobbed at a festival? Not being mobbed at a festival!

NME goes walkabout with three of indie's finest to see how they fare among the great unwashed

PINK EVEST

We're putting the Fucked Up frontman's superstar credentials to the test by taking him out for a wander among the sodden masses of Leeds. Quick as you like, a hawk-eyed fan makes a beeline for Damo and his mates follow suit, swiftly conquering him in a sweaty fancrush of epic proportions. It's just reward for a truly magisterial set at the NME/Radio 1 Stage earlier.

"Can you take a picture of me and Damian?" NME: "Sure, do you have a camera?" Fan: "I find it helps"

The couple who get their picture taken with Damian and walk away as if they've discovered Father Christmas



There's one for the family album, Nick



WORLD BELOWING

"I've been asked to sign tits;

I've been asked to sign a vagina; one time a mother and a daughter asked if I wanted to go back to their hotel with them..." Leather-clad, in sunnies and supping on a water bottle of whisky, Mona's Nick Brown is the picture of rock'n'roll. Problem is, er, no-one really cares. Wandering through the site it takes an off the-cuff job-swap with a bemused ice cream vendor to attract any attention - most of which comes from people who just want a Mr Whippy. Back in the guest area, the hordes of batted eyelashes and skimpily-clad girls return and normality, of sorts, is restored.

" |

Five

Three

None

## Will you sign my belmet?'

Nothing's too stupid to get a scribble in the NME Signing Tent



THE HIP FLASK

Whiskey sure tastes good. Tastes better when swigged out of a hand-customised, one-off, Frank Turner drinkin' tin can.



THE BELT

Foster The People are now making sure this chappie has both 'Pumped Up Kicks' and pulled-up kecks.



THE BACK

A classic signing tent manoeuvre, yes, but would YOU trust Bring Me The Horizon not to write 'nobhead'?



THE CRASH HELMET

Protective headgear is a must for all fans of human pyramid builders Enter Shikari. May as well get it customised, eh?



THE ALL STARS
Why waste those

Converse the mud stopped you from wearing? Just get The Vaccines to deface them!



THE TECHNICOLOR
SPIKED HELMET

If you want to make an impression on Cage The Elephant, this is one of the best way to do it.

Head to NME.COM/festivals to see
photo galleries of all the action from the
NME signing tents in Reading and
Leeds and download your photo for free

## WHAT WE'VE LEARNT

And be warned in advance: some of this stuff is really not very pleasant at all...

You need to be a pretty sexy bastard to pull off a bleach job as bad as Sebastien Grainger from Death From Above 1979.

Kyle Falconer spent Leeds practising his best Kurt Cobain impression, being carted around in a wheelchair. Not sure he pulled it off. Colin Murray gleefully announced to

The View's Main Stage crowd before Kyle hobbled on that our young hero had cut himself on a kitchen knife.

Friendly Fires' dedication to the fans knows no bounds; they spent nearly a BLOODY HOUR after they were supposed to finish in the Leeds signing tent drawing pictures for Hawaiian-shirted maniacs, including one lovably refreshed girl who kept shouting "HOW ARE The YOU I'D?" to the tune of 'Hawarian

response? "Go home, mum'" If your phone dies at I ceds and you're within earshot of the Main Stage, you can make a reasonable fist of telling the time by counting up the number of times you've heard the phrase 'CIRCLE PIT! screamed by glossy-haired

young men with underlying issues.

Air' Mr Macfarlane's amiable

Gerard Way doesn't see what's wrong with telling an NME writer: "What I like best about you is that when you write about music, you put yourself in the child."

This is how umours develop over a weekend. The Strokes were stuck in New York because of the hurricane! Suede are replacing them! The Strokes aren't stuck, but Suede haven't denied they won't play anyway! Suede aren't playing at all,

The Strokes are. Metronomy don't need no special guests. Joe Mount,

not to be outdone by some scarlet-barneted yank, was to be heard introducing keyboard player Oscar Cash as "our very own Brian May, on the saxophone!" during their Saturday Leeds set.

New Found Glory are more self-aware than you might think. "Let's hear it for bullshit noise on the Main Stage!" they were to be heard yelling during some 'technical issues'. We're saying nothing.

Frankie & The Heartstrings know what 'David Blaineing' involves. Michael McKnight educated us at Leeds: "It's when you're having sex with a girl from behind and you slip yourself out and slip your mate in without her noticing. Then you sneak

National won't

crowdsurf-

British crowds

"manhandle

too much"

outside, pop up at the window and say "Shazam."

> 10 Frankie & The Heartstrings drummer David Harper is a man who pisses where he sleeps, if the evidence of

our poor eyes as to his urinating down the side of his tourbus is to be believed. The people who bring their tots to Reading are contributing to exactly the sort of moral decay Mr Cameron keeps

talking about. This isn't Glastonbury. The Blackout are the kind of boys you'd want to take home to meet your parents. "This song is dedicated to every fucking girl here, 'cos they're all fucking liars," they said before 'Spread Legs Not Lies' on the Main Stage at Leeds.

Given that someone spotted Brett Anderson in the crowd maybe the Suede-replace-Strokes rumours were at least entertainable.

To drunk people, mud counts as clothes. It must do, given the number of people wearing it and nowt else.

Matt from The National refused to crowdsurf at Reading and Leeds because he "feels British crowds manhandle too much".

Mike Joyce was glad he had been in The Smiths. Well, that's what he tweeted after watching Beady Eve and MCR.

The Mighty Mighty Bosstones had "three uncooked potatoes" on their rider.

18 The first time you ever see Alison Mosshart from The Kills smile really is something special

1 The 'recycling' bins apparently aren't just for show We stumbled on a massive pool of workers patiently sifting the Sprite bottles from the misplaced pizza slices (and worse).

20 Mark Foster from Foster The People told the Leeds crowd the fascinating news that he's "known Katy Perry for years and she's really funny". Whatever, mare, we went to the same school as Hunter from Gladiators.







Muddy hall Trust us, this bloke has now to be proud of

#### You've read the review, now relive Reading and Leeds online at NME.COM! Vote for the band of the weekend, feast your eyes on literally hundreds of photos of

the weekend (onstage, backstage, full-screen giant photos, the lot), find out what fans thought of the bash, and watch loads of backstage video interviews. We've got headliners My Chemical Romance singing the

praises of Pulp, 30 Seconds To Mars answering fan questions and raving about Nirvana... plus The Vaccines chat about their next album and the perils of signing teenagers' boobs, and you can find out what it's like to stride out on the Main Stage thanks to our trademark all-access 'walk-on' videos with a whole host of bands. It's all at NME.COM right now, crying out for your clicks.

#### Thank you!

From the festival site:

Beautiful Beanbags, POSCA Pens, Fender, Gaymers cider, Carling, Camilla, Holly and Erica from

Festival Republic,

Rob Howard,

Jack Daniel's

From the office: Wagamama, Mooli's Divine Street Cuisine, Domino's Pizza, Alex Vaughan-Davies, Ciaran O'Shea, Tim Lane

OUT WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER

## Coming Next Week

# EVERYTHING Suede do more

THE ALBUMIA

**SAVIOUR OF GUITAR MUSIC** 

## REWEWS

RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS, ICEAGE, THE RAPTURE

Edited by Emily Mackay



PORTAMENTO MOSHI MOSHI/ISLAND

Boo-hoo, woe is me – Jonathan Pierce is fond of a wallow. Lucky these Brooklyn kids are adept at channelling self-pity into sweet, jangly pop



he sleeve of The Drums' second album is a family photo of a young Jonathan Pierce standing next to a middle-aged woman, probably his gran. His eyes are photoshopped red, and above his head (which sports the exact same haircut he has today), a wall-mounted crucifix hangs ominously. He may as well have scribbled "I've got issues" across his face. Or have drawn a little Jesus on the cross with a huge knob dangling from its forehead. It's that subtle.

The record itself is no less overt, baring its troubled soul across 12 songs of parent-bashing, church-hating and self-loathing. The whole thing reeks of a man begging for psychological issues with the same twatty desperation the bored middle classes beg for wheat allergies. Yet despite the persecution complex, 'Portamento' does exactly what The Drums do best—preen and pose from start to finish, decked out in insanely eatchy riffs and Smiths-like melancholy. This time, there are no surfboards on which to glide across the sea of angst—only

heavy memories of departed girlfriends, wanker ex-bandmates and HATE, HATE, HATE dragging them beneath the waves. It's a deeper, more penetrating record as a result.

"I wrote the lyrics for the first album as if I was 10 years younger," Pierce told NME last month. "That's why everything's translated from a teenage standpoint. But with this record it's very much now." Older and wiser then, but they still shoot their load too early. Opener 'Book Of Revelations' is the best thing the band have ever done. Announcing itself with a sigh that sets the tone as spectacularly right as the ill-judged sex grunts on debut opener 'Best Friend' (a very unsexy song about death) got it wrong, you're reminded that Pierce may be one of the most punchable men in music, but he and his band are possessed of a talent to write genius pop songs.

"Oh darlin', you are the son of an evil man/I know you hate yourself, but you're nothing like him," he crooms knowingly, as Strokesy guitars jangle above steady handelaps. 'Days' follows, all bittersweet sentiments and sneer, before 'What You Were' adds trumpets and hip swing to the classic post-C86 posturing. First single 'Money' has the head-over-heels pessimism and instant infection of classic Smiths, Jacob Graham evoking his inner Marr to sit alongside Pierce's shameless Morrissey.

"I knew in the back of my head that believing in Jesus was nonsense," Pierce told us, and you know what, he's right. Only a godless world could inflict such sorrow as three of the next four tracks. At least they've bunched them together for easy skipping. 'I Don't Know How To Love' and 'If He Likes It Let Him Do It' are lazy, 'poor me' moans, but the real turkey is 'Searching For Heaven', a sloppy unloading of sub-Kraftwerk shit featuring the whiniest vocal ever put to record. Seriously, don't do it to yourself. The world doesn't need another killer on its streets, and you WILL become one about 1.24 in when a horrible high-pitched Thom Yorke-esque squeal pierces your sanity.

In the last third, normal service is resumed: a lifetime of woes distilled into catchy poptunes. 'Please Don't Leave' and 'I Need A Doctor' evoke longtime heroes The Field Mice, while 'In The Cold' proves that The Drums can do slow and tender. Closer 'How It Ended' ties the whole thing together with hope, and we're left feeling that with a little more self-censorship and less browbeating we'd be looking at one of the albums of the year. As it is, and considering the upheaval following Adam Kessler's departure, it's best to look at 'Portamento' as a marker of the potential brilliance that album three could bring. Mike Williams

DOWNLOAD: 'Book Of Revelation', 'Money',
'I Need A Doctor'

THIS IS HARDSCORE

what our numbers add up to

Not-evenfunny bad I Barely one saving grace 2 Actively terrible 3 Woefully bad or lazy 4 Depressingly substandard

5 Dead-on average 6 Better than average

Really good Exceptionally

9 Of-the-year

tr Of-the-decade good

#### FOSTERCARE AND †‡†

\*# VS FOSTERCARE ROBOT ELEPHANT



All the usual witch-house baggage - enigmatic names, wordplay that mashes up hip-hop and occultism, a megaton of reverb - doesn't obscure the

inventive sounds coming from these two dark forces. Brooklynite Fostercare, whose mixtapes mingle This Mortal Coil with classical composers, contributes four dystopian raps to this split album including the bastardised dubstep of 'Queen' and gothic reverie 'Low'. Mexico City's †‡†, aka Ritualz, is best when staking a claim for the dark wave dancefloor with a remix of Fostercare's 'Cold Light' and 'III', a synthed-up beast that draws heavily from '90s trance, but in a good way. That's not something you often get to write, so extra props to him.

Frances Morgan

DOWNLOAD: 'III'

#### ROCKET FROM THE TOMBS

**BARFLY FIRE RECORDS** 



Lovely as Fire Records' never-ceasing run of reissues is, it's nice to see at least one new release. The group who penned the gloriously heterodox 'Sonic Reducer',

Rocket From The Tombs (not to be confused with those fellas from the crypt) return with something old (reissue 'The Day The Earth Met RFTT') and new ('Barfly'). The lyrical nihilism and Stooges swagger of the band's formative years endures with their third hyper-rock offering, as the psych-garage of 'Six And Two' and the drooling croon of 'Good Times Never Roll' are neatly surmised by the witticism: "I want that sucker punch you call your sugarcane". How naughty. Ash Dosanjh

DOWNLOAD: 'I Sell Soul'

#### **AIRSHIP** STUCK IN THIS OCEAN PIAS



Airship, the first in a glut of Manchester guitar bands formed around 2007/8 who left hype-mongers abuzz, are the last to release an LP. Time hasn't

been spentidly watching Everything Everything, Delphic et al's rise however; 'Stuck In This Ocean' reflects 18 months that's seen the quartet support The Joy Formidable and Biffy Clyro. 'Invertebrate' swells irrepressibly, while 'Kids' matches Danish group Mew in its successful balance of sincerity and bombast. Though nothing seems to have really moved on from the soft-ended post-rock of the mid-'00s, hopefully Airship haven't left it too long; within this ocean lie some delicious catches. Simon Jay Catling

DOWNLOAD: 'Invertebrate'

#### MEGAFAUN

**MEGAFAUN** CRAMMED DISCS



Anyone dipping in and out of the lengthy third album by North Carolina trio Megafaun might find it hard to credit these gents' noodly avant-jazz side.

Much of 'Megafaun' is taken up with pensive country-folk soothers and vaguely Neil Young-ish jamming. Then you remember that the dissolution of their former band, DeYarmond Edison, led its remaining member Justin Vernon to start Bon Iver, and that seems an odd fit for Megafaun too. A little too difficult and gnarly to really follow Vernon into the 'your dad trying to be cool' mainstream, this album might nevertheless fly with fans of the band their approach most resembles, Wilco.

Noel Gardner

DOWNLOAD: 'You Are The Light'

#### **ICEAGE**

**NEW BRIGADE** ABEANO

#### Four teenage punks from Denmark fashion goth nihilism and hardcore fury into an incendiary device



In his spare time, Elias Rønnenfelt runs a fanzine called Dogmeat. Flick through it and you'll find illustrations of murdering Klansmen, people with wolf-heads and race

rioters running amok on the streets. It's a disturbing insight into the hottest new properties in punk, because Elias is also frontman of Copenhagen bad-lads Iceage.

The four-piece may have only just reached legal drinking age but they're already a sensation at home, part of a resurgent punk scene branded the 'new wave of Danish fuck you'. Despite being avowedly anti-racist and counting a Jewish drummer, Dan Nielsen, among their ranks, Iceage, like the Sex Pistols and many others since, also dabble dicily in far-right imagery — fans have allegedly been spotted sieg-heiling at shows in Denmark, and the band even don KKK-esque outfits in one video. Here's another awkward truth: in 'New Brigade', they've carved out the most eloquent slab of aural carnage you'll hear all year.

At 12 tracks long and twice as many minutes, the record mixes elements of hardcore, black metal, goth and post-punk with a germ-like ambition that suggests something unspeakably clever has just flopped out of punk's primordial soup.

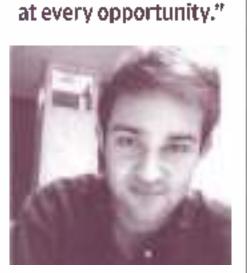
Setting the scene with sepulchral clanks and

Rune', a startling blast of jackboot nihilism replete with brilliant imagery of marching churches and lifeless marble ladies. The track reminds us of nothing so much as 'Strange House'-era Horrors, but strung out on hardcore instead of '60s garage, and without a shred of camp in its armoury.

'New Brigade' is all hammered sheet-metal guitar and tear-ass drums, while 'Remember' takes a more subtle form of attack, as if plucked from a hidden cache of Joy Division B-sides in Stasi HQ. 'Broken Bone' does melodic power chordage in the '77 punk mould, and boasts the album's first discernible chorus, along with an ace adrenalin-surge, fight-or-flight bit in the middle. 'Count Me In' is a knotted fury of wood and wire that seems to be plotting new vectors from the

arse-end of the apocalypse.

The band bring diabolical energy to even the most generically thrashy moments, but even better is how Iceage confront the listener with the spectre of violence at a moment when England has its head buried in the sand over the riots and the economy, and music contents itself with 'hauntologically' musing over last week's pool parties and handing out Kit Kats at gigs (we're looking at you, Summer Camp). Questions must remain about some of their choices, but for now just remember: this is 2011, folks. Welcome to the New Ugliness. Alex Denney



FACES TO

TVAMES...

What the

reviewers are

doing this week

**MIKE WILLIAMS** 

"I've been trying to

work out if the fact

'Made In America'

exists means that

Kanye & Jay Z are

geniuses or criminally

insane, while listening

to it on repeat and

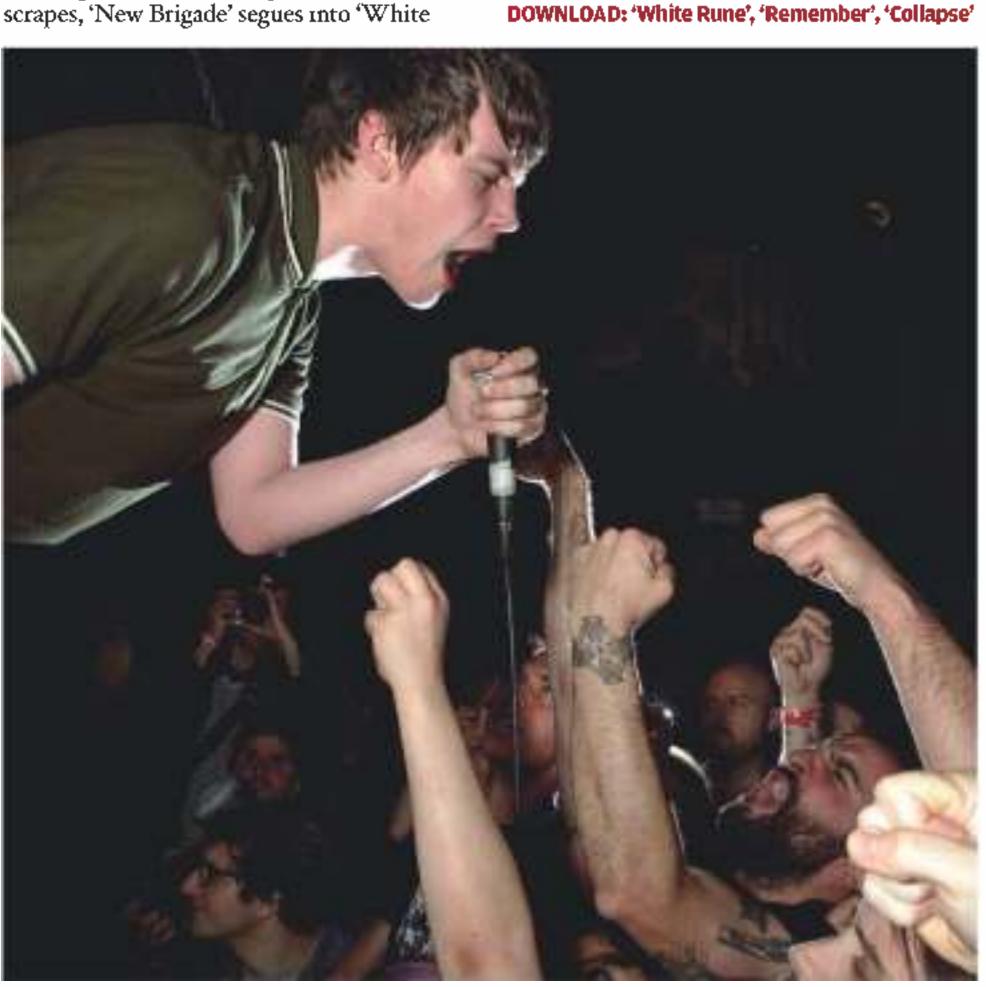
yodelling about 'sweet

brother Malcolm'

**SAM WOLFSON** "This week I've been at the Edinburgh Festival. It's sort of like Glastonbury but everyone's from Oxbridge and makes jokes about Chekov. Actually, it's exactly like Glastonbury."



LISA WRIGHT "This week I've been having a birthdaycentric quarter life crisis, resulting in attempted exercise (mostly unsuccessful), copious amounts of gin (very successful) and constant listening to Wild Beasts (victorious)."





#### NOVEMBER

#### 28/BRIGHTON CENTRE 30/CARDIFF MOTORPOINT ARENA

#### DECEMBER

02/NOTTINGHAM CAPITAL FM ARENA
04/LIVERPOOL ECHO ARENA
06/BIRMINGHAM NIA
07/MANCHESTER MEN
08/NEWCASTLE ARENA
10/SHEFFIELD MOTORPOINT ARENA
11/GLASGOW SECC
14/LONDON THE 02

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& new album 'Velociraptor!' released 19 September

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#### THE RAPTURE

IN THE GRACE OF YOUR LOVE DEA

Nine years after the New Yorkers' game-changing hit, we're still waiting for a reason to fall head over heels



"Don't ever look back" Luke Jenner sings over and over on opener 'Sail Away'. All very well to say, but if, in 2011, you came across someone who'd never heard of The Rapture,

what would you play them? New single 'How Deep Is Your Love? 2006's 'Get Myself Into It'? No. Something off the first album? Well, yes. 'Olio'? Nope, try again. Think.

Unfair? The Rapture have had plenty of time to address this problem. It's almost to years since their Tune That Changed Everything, and five since the underwhelming 'Pieces Of The People We Love'. Five years in which, say, Arctic Monkeys have made all four of their albums. Immediately post-'House Of Jealous Lovers' (there, said it), The Rapture harboured grand ambitions, htring U2's manager and signing to a major. But after being dropped by said label, losing their best musician (bassist Mattie Safer), and crawling back to DFA, the air around them in 2011 is hardly buzzing.

They've turned to Philippe Zdar of Cassius for production, which might encourage those who prefer The Rapture as straight-ahead electro-dance troupe. But that was never the point of the band, and anyway, the closest they come to full-throttle bangers is a run towards the end of 'Children', 'Can You Find A Way?' and the single. Before that, 'Miss You', 'Blue Bird' and 'Come Back To Me' elicit the same reponse we had to The Strokes' 'Call Me Back' and 'Two Kinds Of Happiness': for songs that have taken half a decade to arrive, they sound far from finished.

The lyrics, too, reek of a lack of inspiration: "You've got me flying through your love" ('Never Die Again'), "Come to me, stay with me" ('Roller Coaster') and, worst of all, 'It Takes Time To Be A Man': a half-finished indie band-do-R Kelly-slow-jam that finds Luke Jenner stating that, "There's room in your heart, now, for excellence to take a stand". I mean, really...

This is a book that needs to be closed now, sadly. Hamish MacBain

DOWNLOAD: Do we need to tell you which song?

#### HOUSSE DE RACKET **ALESIA KITSUNE**



If Housse De Racket's music sounds vaguely familiar, it's not without reason: the duo come from the same part of France as Phoenix, have also played

back-up to Air, and worked with former Phoenix producer Philippe Zdar on this, their second album. Fortunately, though, they also share with Phoenix a knack for sharp songwriting and have cooked up some ear-catching atmospherics that rival Air at their best. 'TGV', for example, combines a nagging post-punk synth hook with Gallic swagger, while the title track has a funereal majesty that could stop traffic. This album may score a continental nul points for originality, but it has a seductive charm that would put Brigitte Bardot to shame. Ben Cardew 6 DOWNLOAD: 'TGV'

#### PENGUIN PRISON **PENGUIN PRISON STRANGER**



The debut album from Penguin Prison feels as if it's been a long time coming. The New York artist also known as multi-instrumentalist and producer

Chris Glover has grown from the Neon Gold ranks, but unlike the label's other earlier releases (Passion Pit, Ellie Goulding) it doesn't feel like he's matured. While the album's mixing makes for a glorious headphone listen, the lyrics verge on cheesy, and the standard song structures are all heard-it-allbefore. It's neither sexy enough to be Prince, nor fun enough to be Primary 1. It's a shame, because there is talent here, but no matter how well produced a record is, sometimes the songs just aren't quite there. Jen Long

DOWNLOAD: 'Golden Train'

#### **FOOLS GOLD**

LEAVE NO TRACE IAMSOUND



Despite that most hippyish of titles, Fool's Gold's second album finds them kicking off the Jesus sandals and stepping out out of the sunny,

love-beaded Afropop that made their debut a blog darling. Their sound always blended LA psych-rock and dark indie with jaunty highlfe sounds, and the sultry, Wild Beasts-ish 'Balmy' and the Arcade Fire-worthy storminess of the title track are less happy-clappy than of old, pleasingly moody, subtle and complex. Sometimes the likes of 'Street Clothes' stray a little too far into musoville, but overall it's a masterful blend of worldwide influences without a trace of gap-year naff. Duncan Gillespie DOWNLOAD: 'Balmy'

#### THE HORRIBLE CROWES

**ELSIE SIDEONEDUMMY** 



Ker Notes

Best sleeve

of the week

The Drums –

'Portamento'

There's something

about this simple

combination of retro

childhood snaps and

**DEMON EYES that is** 

both quite unsettling

and totally hysterical.

It's probably Granny

that does it.

Worst sleeve

of the week

Airship -

'Stuck In This Ocean'

We've been squinting at this ultrasound scan for

hours, trying to work

out what it's carrying.

A sword hilt? An evil

xenomorph? A travel-

iron? Answers on

a postcard.

Reviewed

Week:

· Laura Marling - 'A

Creature I Don't Know'

Girls – 'Father, Son,

Holy Ghost'

• Big Deal -

'Lights Out'

• SCUM - 'Again

Into Eyes'

**VEXT** 

How many more mournful, Springsteenesque songs about women called Mary-Kate, Mary-Lou, Mary-Beth, or just plain Mary does the world need?

The stockpile just ain't ever big enough if you're The Gaslight Anthem's Brian Fallon, who's even set up a new side-project with childhood friend Ian Perkins to lob 'Mary Ann' up to the top of the heap. To be fair, that song finds Fallon trying on a Tom Waits impression instead of his usual Bruce one, to dubious effect. On 'Go Tell Everybody', Fallon's snarl even bares its teeth in the direction of The Afghan Whigs' dark lord Greg Dulli - this is supposed to be a record that plumbs the depths, but Brian's just too set on big redemptive choruses to make the 'unsettling' 6 work he set out to. Emily Mackay DOWNLOAD: 'Go Tell Everybody'

#### GRIMES

**GEIDI PRIMES** NO PAIN IN POP



Despite the esoteric veneer of this bedroom-born debut, Grimes (aka Claire Boucher) has packed 'Geidi Primes' with enough ideas to make for an instantly

accessible and intimate listen. Blending genres chillwave ('Zoal, Face Dancer'), and post-rock ('Venus

DOWNLOAD: 'Feyd Rautha Dark Heart'



like paints on a palette, the Montreal-based artist's chameleonic approach sees her switch between oriental pop ('Sardaukar Levenbrech'), In Fleurs') with attentive ease. But it's tracks like 'Feyd Rautha Dark Heart' and 'Avi', where the 22-year-old cavorts in a similarly dark and beatdriven vein to Zola Jesus and Austra, that Grimes' celestial vocal and her ear for a hook really draw you in. Thomas A Ward

#### HTRK **WORK (WORK, WORK)**

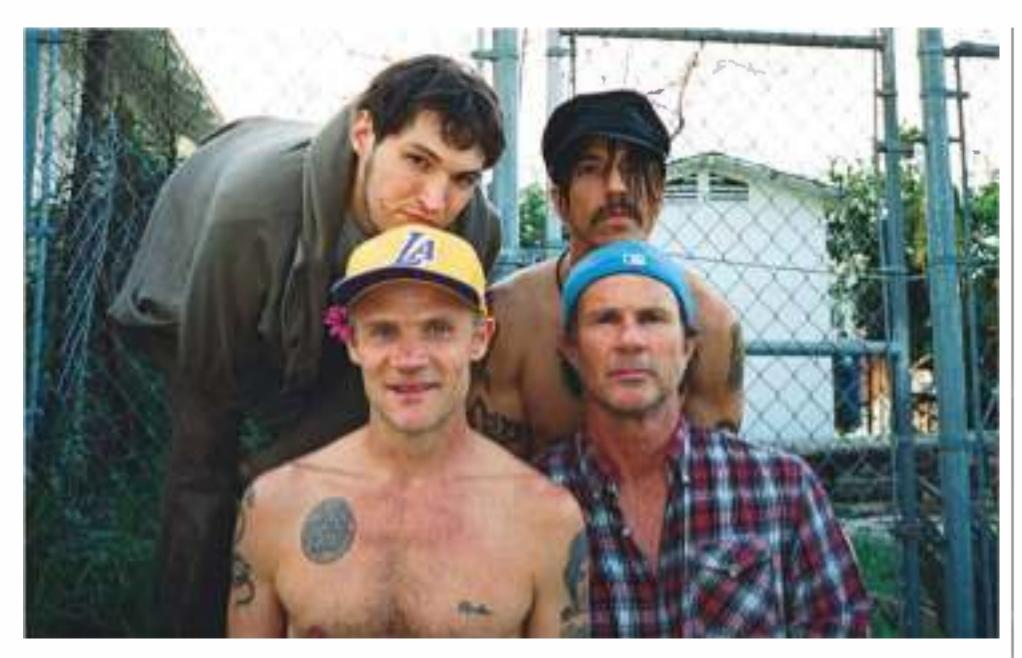
**BLAST FIRST PETITE** 



Though HTRK's second full-length proper was completed shortly after the tragic death of founding member Sean Stewart last year, its bleak soundscapes

were imagined between 2006 and 2010. Continuing a penchant for darkness established on 2009's 'Marry Me Tonight', 'Work (Work, Work)' is probably as grim a sounding record as you're likely to hear. The sparse, nauseous swirls of 'Love Triangle' make 'Kid A' sound like an album totally in love with the world, while 'Slo Glo' is The xx brutalising Trent Reznor; lyrically, subject matter includes poison, electrocution, bullets, eating hearts, and smothering. Not the feel-good hit of the summer, then. Rob Webb **DOWNLOAD: 'Love Triangle'** 





## REDHOTCHILIPEPPERS

I'M WITH YOU WARNER BROS

The bass-abusing funk rock stalwarts colonise the middle of the road with this slick but safe outing



Formed a mind-boggling 28 years ago, Red Hot Chili Peppers apparently started life as a joke, a priapic party band put together to soundtrack happening LA shindigs

back before Arnold Schwarzenegger had even starred in Terminator. They are the joke that keeps giving. Their previous double player 'Stadium Arcadium' suffered from quality control issues, and while mercifully only bringing out the one disc this time, 'I'm With You'still feels like a journey, albeit via Megabus. Having survived various personnel changes and a drugs death, their now settled line-up still includes a revolving door of guitarists. Accomplished new axe-man Josh Klinghoffer, who is allowed to fire out some serious glam-rock hooks during lead single 'The Adventures Of Rain Dance Maggie', fits in a little too well; subtle and mostly restrained throughout, he screams 'session musician', though he's the perfect foil for bassist Flea, who can now reveal the true extent of his megalomania. Adrenalised by guava smoothics and good Californian living, where he once drove the sound, he now rules like a crazed North African despot, and before long the album begins to resemble one long interlude from Seinfeld.

Anthony Kiedis is nothing if not consistent, his voice as assured and unmistakable as ever, and his lyrical vagaries as unfathomable as one has come to expect. On 'Annie Wants A Baby', a lesbian couple covet some of Anthony's A-grade alpha seed, while on 'Monarchy Of Roses' he starts warbling bafflingly about "the boly tears of Ireland" and "the calicos of Pettibon". The dichotomy of profundity/vacuity here is breathtakingly Bono-like.

There's nothing as good as 'Taste The Pain' or 'Give It Away' here, though nothing as loathsome as 'Love Rollercoaster' either. Mutterings of unbridled experimentation were sadly just rumours. The very fact long-time collaborator Rick Rubin is at the helm is proof enough that while the production is mostly immaculate, 'I'm With You' is an exercise in how a multi-million selling rock behemoth plays it safe. Jeremy Allen

DOWNLOAD: 'Monarchy Of Roses', 'Ethopia', 'The Adventures Of Rain Dance Maggie'

### TOM MORELLO: THE NIGHTWATCHMAN

**WORLD WIDE REBEL SONGS NEW WEST** 



Tom Morello is a righteous dude. When he's not shredding people's faces off in Rage Against The Machine or swinging his dick in Audioslave, he's out there

with his undies outside his trousers, fighting THE MAN. Such is Morello's standing in the world of musical protest, you'd think he could do better than Ben Harper as his marquee guest vocalist. Morello's own voice? Conscious, wise and at times, really fucking angry. But unlike Rage, there's no bounce or groove to make you give a shit, leaving the whole thing feeling like a man shouting at a wall. Mike Williams

DOWNLOAD: 'Union Town'

### MIRACLE FORTRESS

WAS I THE WAVE? SECRET CITY RECORDS



The second effort from Miracle Fortress, aka Graham Van Pelt, makes for an enjoyable, if slightly unmemorable listen. Riddled with stripped-back,

ambient synth lines, instrumental sections and subtly warm electronics, 'Immanent Domain' and 'Spectre' fall in the realms of Toro Y Moi but lack the polished, slightly chintzy charm. 'Miscalculations', meanwhile, comes on like Everything Everything on a hefty dose of valium. 'Tracers', led by a mathy bassline and Van Pelt's Brian Wilson-recalling vocal, is a thankfully instant highlight but, even after several spins, the majority of 'Was I The Wave?' 6 has kind of passed us by. Lisa Wright

**DOWNLOAD: 'Tracers'** 

### reviewed by NME's JAZZ

# MONROE



### **SNOW PATROL**

**CALLED OUT IN THE DARK FICTION** 



Gazza Lightbody and co's last two albums were so wet of spirit and middle of road they were prancing back to the pavement for fear of being run over, 'Called Out In

The Dark' once again paints the Eeyore-rockers as merely the minions polishing the throne of the ruling uncles of mid-life anthemry, Elbow.

### OKKERVIL RIVER YOUR PAST LIFE AS A BLAST JAGJAGUWAR



You can practically smell the songwriting juices fuelling this. Flaunting the male disease of musical self-importance like an impressive black

eye, its shamelessly literary narrative would bore our bollocks off were it not for some louche '80s schmooze buttressing Will Sheff's scratched-DVD lyrics. It's pretty amazing, but no-one will buy it.

### **BONIVER HOLOCENE** 4AD



After that debut turning internetshire inside-out with glee, that Kanye duet making blubbering Auto-Tuned folkisms the height of epicurean taste, and that

follow-up turning the world inside-out all over again, we're back where we started. 'Holocene' will once more elevate you to that peculiar, sunblushed balcony of sublime ego-death only J-Vern can.

### **DELS FT JOE GODDARD** AND ROOTS MANUVA

**CAPSIZE NINJA TUNE** 



Penning a non-facepalm political pop song seems impossible to most modern musicians, making 'Capsize' all the more impressive. "Ain't nothing

changed since Britain turned blue/Looks like we're all fucked, no lube" yells Dels, valiantly. The cruel irony of the words-not-weapons ethos here is that Ninja Tune was devastated by the PIAS fire, suggesting we should have perked our ears up a little sooner.

### **GHOSTPOET**

**LIINES BROWNSWOOD** 



More fine Brit-hop - this time, insightful, indie-flirting tweenius from dapper trilby-enthusiast Obaro Ejimiwe, who already has Mike Skinner slavering. This

end-of-night shower of sleepy lexical excellence is easily 2011 times better than 99 per cent of the regressive braggadocio that cruises annoyingly around the mainstream these days, masquerading as the voice of THE KIDS, MAN.

### WHITE DENIM

IS AND IS AND IS FULL TIME HOBBY



How the Christ did this lot ever get anyone listening long enough to give a shit? Bereft of decent clothes, sex appeal and memorable tunes, their

sustained existence is baffling. But to level your flak at 'Is And Is And Is' would be to miss its enchanting, off-kilter psych-rambunctiousness. That said, the lack of tune does lead it to roam the wilderness of 'very alright' for so long it couldn't hitch a ride to 'brainblisteringly awesome' if it tried.



THE

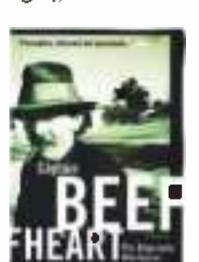
What we're watching, reading and mooching in this week



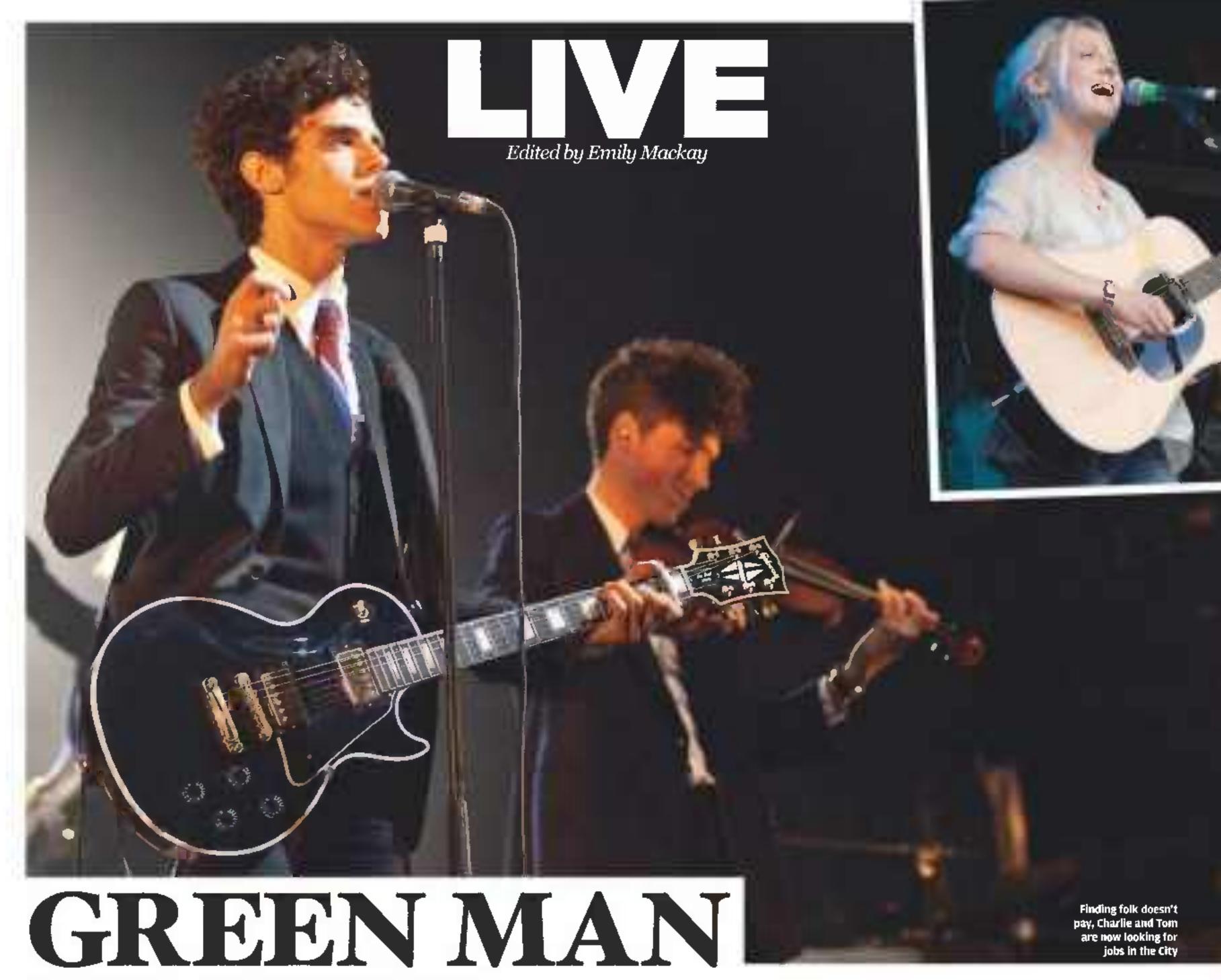
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This Boxfresh Cambria shirt is different from your average Oxfordsoft in chambray, with warm sleeves (because summer's not coming back). It also has subtle contrasts on the collar and buttondown. Get it in grey, red and blue.



BOOK Captain Beefheart: The Biography Mike Barnes' 2000 book is the classic tome about Don Van Vliet and his bizarre life. After Beefheart's death last December, this is an updated version, covering his last days.



GLANUSK PARK, BRECON BEACONS FRIDAY, AUGUST 19 - SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

Villagers, SUUNS and Fleet Foxes win the battle of the beards at this rustic and mellow gathering

hough derided in certain quarters for being "too beardy", this festival in the heart of the Brecon Beacons has come to be an antidote for those feeling that the annual shindig in the Vale of Avalon has lost something fits original spirit. For sure, there's enough ammunition for the naysavers; it does indeed appear that almost every band to grace the festival's stages are contractually bound to sport some form of facial hair. Similarly, the hirsuteness quotient among the punters is enough to give shareholders of razorblade products mild palpitations. But Green Man, now in its ninth year, is a festival so laidback and mellow that the problems of the outside world float away on the clouds that pass by the site's breathtakingly beautiful rural environs.

Villagers' early evening performance on Friday is something of a revelation to the doubters who found his debut, 'Becoming A Jackal', overly earnest As Bono proved by postponing last year's Glastonbury thanks to a dodgy back, placing the weight of the world on one pair of shoulders can be devastating; here, with the backing of a full band, Conor O'Brien and his music become far more compelling. 'Ship Of Promises' rollicks by at an urgent pace and by the time "The Pact (I'll Be Your Fever)" arrives. Green Man fits snugly into his back pocket.

Though they produce a Main Stage headlining show of epic splendour that could easily be an elegy to imploding stars and dying universes, Explosions In The Sky's symphonic muscle-flexing is usurped by a stand-out performance from Holy Fuck over at the Far Out

Stage. Their analogue barrage and gargantuan beats are exactly what are needed to get tired feet moving as they tap into hitherto unknown energy reserves. Swathed in smoke and bathed in demonic lights, their facial hair status remains unknown but their music leaves no-one in any doubt.

Reaching the end of Noah & The Whale's Saturday night set is not unlik being roused from a powerful anaesthetic. They've

scrubbed up ince their debut - their suits are quite splendid – but there's little here that really engages or demands more than a casual nod. Of course, they play the one from the advert ('5 Years Time') and their rendition of Bachman-Turner Overdrive's 'You Ain't Seen Nothing Yet' (sorry, 'Tonight's The Kind Of Night'), but it all feels like being cornered by the pub bore. They aspire to be U2, will be lucky to be The Killers and settle on being a Travis for the 21st century

Fleet Foxes finally scem to have got the hang of this festival thing. Their

## Noah & The Whale have become a Travis for the 21st century

2009 Glastonbury appearance found a band overwhelmed by the sense of occasion and their close harmonies and acoustic plucking fell at the first hurdle. Not so with their headline set on the Main Stage, as any lingering doubts of their ability to play to the masses are



tossed into the wind. Bold and full of vigour, this is a band reborn and ready to take on the world.

Over at the Far Out Stage, Squarepusher is dividing opinion in a way that no other artists achieves this weekend. On the one hand, his stuttering beats and deep bass grooves are so off the scale as to provide music with a new vernacular while on the other, thoughts of a tool box having it out with a drawer of cutlery are never far from the mind. Whatever your opinion, he's marginally less enjoyable than The Sonic

Manipulator, a one-man techno act who appears at the bottom of a field dressed as a neon-lit spaceman, and becomes electronica's answer to the late Frank Sidebottom.

Any unfortunates blighted by the condition known as "festival constipation" find relief in James Blake's bowel-loosening Sunday teatime turn. While the music has much to recommend it - a seductive hybrid of dubstep, dub and post-rock guitar action --Blake's own charisma bypass means he could do with a diva to take centre stage every now and then.

Laura Marling's appearance – her third at Green Man - arrives in stark contrast to James Blake's fearsome rumblings. In many respects, she's the quintessential act for this festival, and her Main Stage performance, like Villagers', is more compelling than her records.

The weekend's most memorable set is delivered by SUUNS on the Far Out Stage. Their hypnotic, dark electronica and dirge-like rock does much to belie Green Man's reputation as a folky get-together. Compelling from the first beat to the last, SUUNS stretch out

> their collective hand as the audience feeds hungrily from it.

Despite arriving late thanks to technical problems on the Far Out stage, Gruff Rhys' position as a national treasure is now set in stone. Infusing his performance with a humanity that's in all too short supply with a mild psychedelic tinge, Rhys brings the festival to a close with an epic and oddly touching reading of his epic 'Skylon' that sums up the beauty of this superb festival. Start growing your beards now for next year. Julian Marszalek

UJEW FROM THE STAGE



Jody King, schoolgirl "I really enjoyed the liquorice shop and eating all the sweet things because they made me really hyper. I liked Fleet Foxes because they were loud and Laura Marling because what she sings is nice."

# VERONICA FALLS

DALSTON ROOF PARK, LONDON WED, AUGUST 17 Rain won't stop these bleak jangle-poppets' rise

h, glorious British summer – a dreamlike season of long lazy evenings swathed in hazy sunshine, with picnics on grassy lawns to be nibbled, pint glasses of rosé spritzers to be sipped and pale men in ill-advised shorts to be mocked. Or at least, that's how it's supposed to be. Unfortunately, as usual, August is massively taking the piss. It's been pelting fat globs of rain down all evening and the overriding vibe of the day has been decidedly grey.

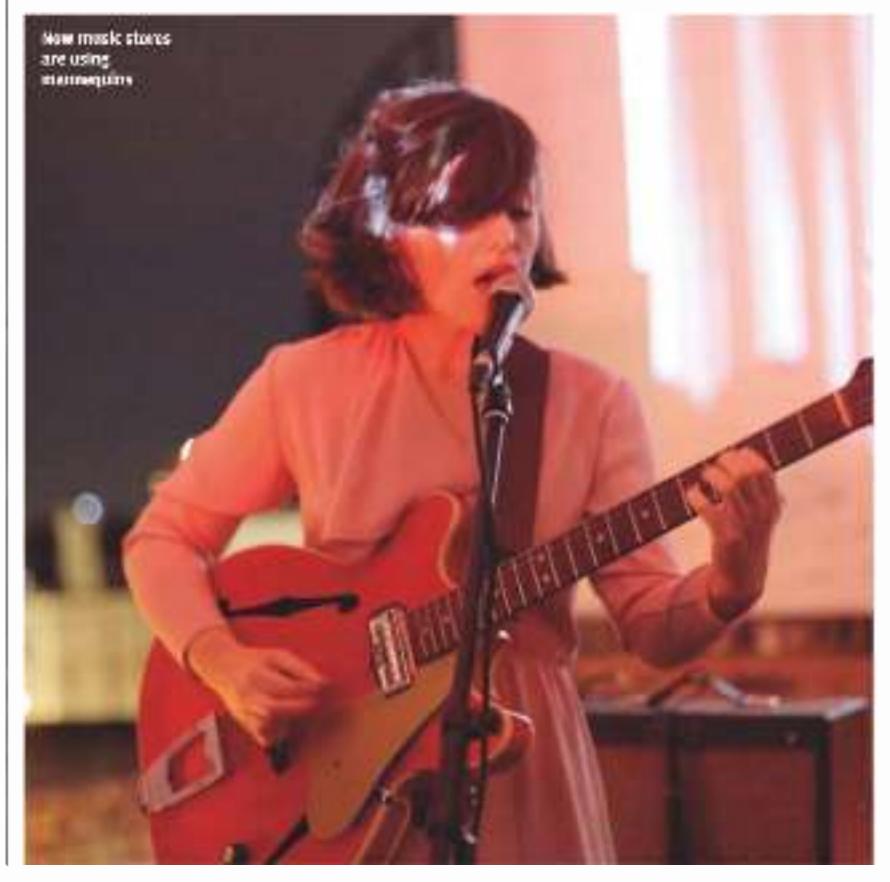
It's hard to shake the feeling that this isn't quite the weather that was hoped for when tonight's rooftop show, set in a sky-high community garden complete with rainbow chard and thriving herb section, was initially booked. The rain does clear by the time Veronica Falls rock up to the vertiginous venue, but the AstroTurf is still squidgy and more than a few winter coats have been donned for the occasion. Even so, you can't help but think that the four-piece, with all their lyrical references to suicide hotspots, graveyards and being buried alive, couldn't have planned the bleak weather better if they'd tried. The cool night air suits their particular brand of effortless, denim-clad guitar swoonery down to the ground - which from way up here, is roughly five stories. A flashy sunset and Dalston scenesters in flip flops would have been far too gauche a backdrop, so instead, tonight's show is perfectly underplayed, offering a peculiar kind of

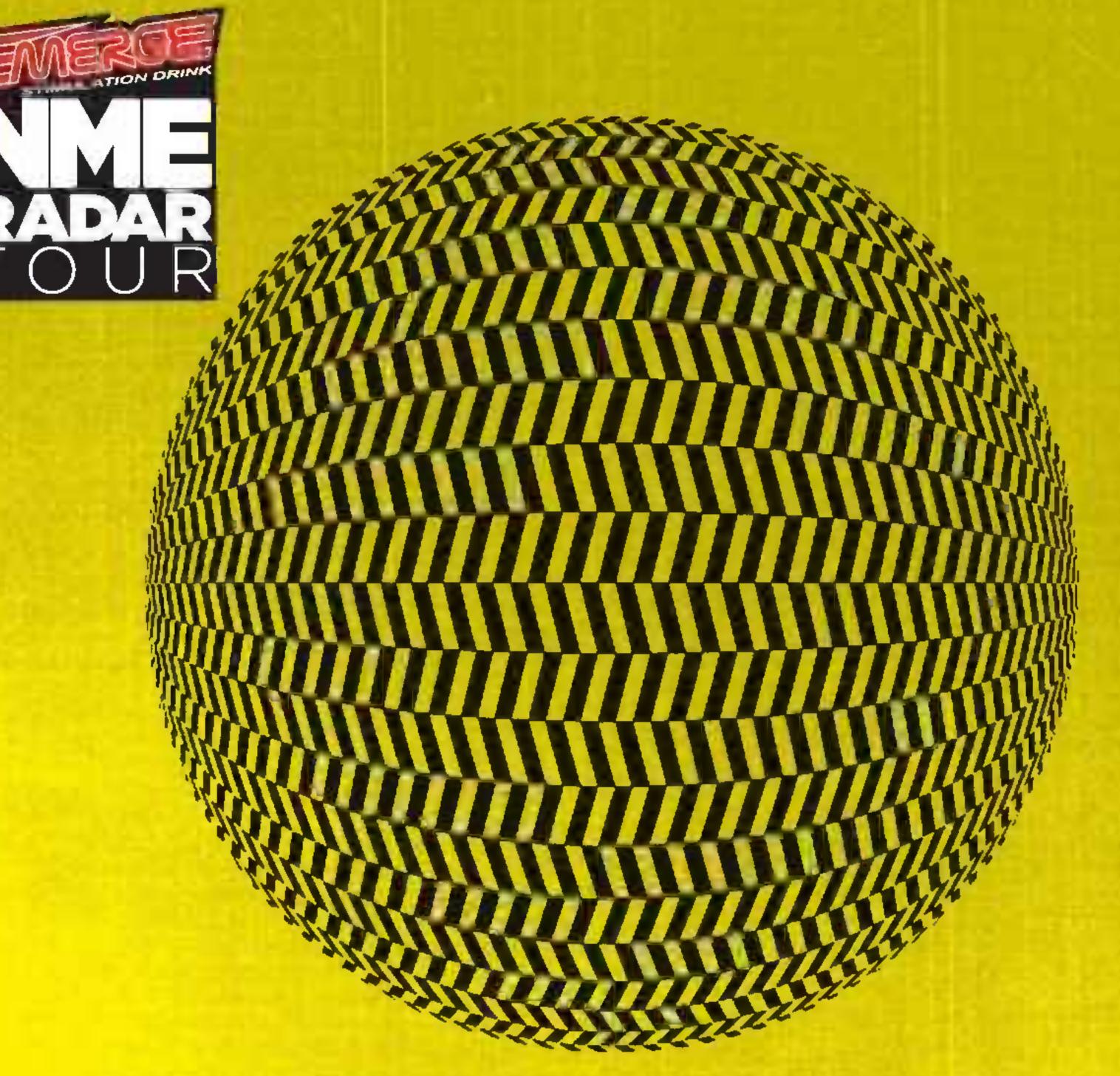
cosiness amongst the drizzle-splattered Mary Poppins-esque chimneys. Though the less said of the inflatable awning above the stage, which, frankly, makes everyone look as though they're trapped inside a giant tampon, the better.

They're performing in front of a screen that will later in the evening air 1962's creepy camp classic Whatever Happened To Baby Jane?, at Veronica Falls' request. Another nod to the 1960s opens the show: a lilting, softwave rendering of The Rolling Stones' 'Under My Thumb'. Rather than the rampantly misogynistic ambience of the original, the song, as fed through the delicate coo of frontwoman Roxanne Clifford, becomes a brilliant jangly lady-led kiss off.

Their touring jaunt with The Drums in the States this autumn is obviously a road-buddy match made in heaven, even if new single 'Bad Feeling' sees the London-via-Glasgow gang break away from their '80s schmindie shroud, with a Hope Sandoval-meets-Ennio Morricone summoning of Spaghetti Western hi-jinks. Rolling through the prettified Pixies sashay of 'Stephen' and the quaint axe duelling of 'Come On Over, their three-part harmonies even see them tipping into basement Beach Boys territory, with fringes over their eyes and fire in their fingertips.

Whisper it from the rooftops, because summer might have alluded them now, but Veronica Falls are looking set to practically own autumn. Leonie Cooper





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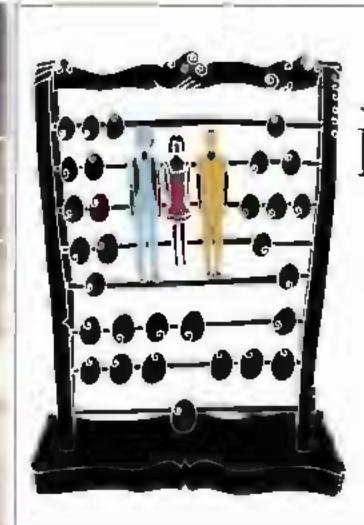
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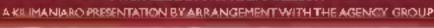
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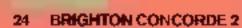
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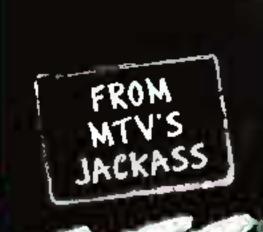
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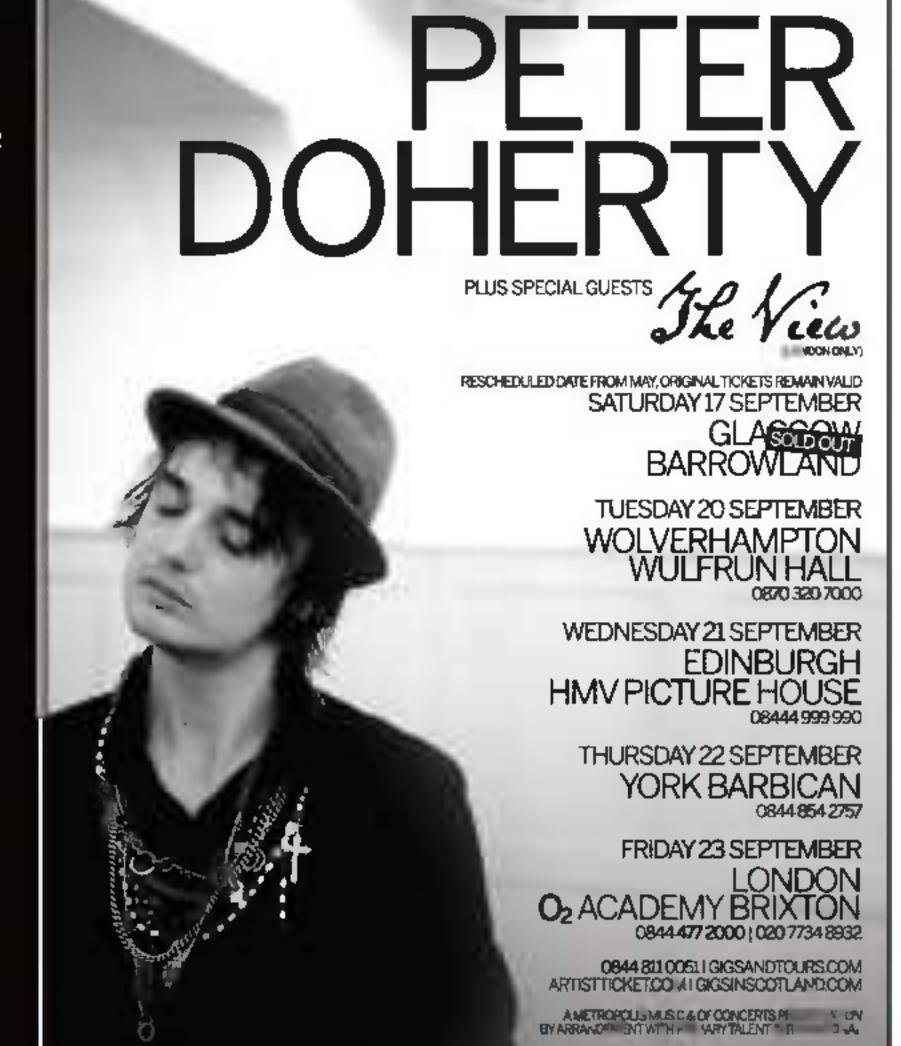
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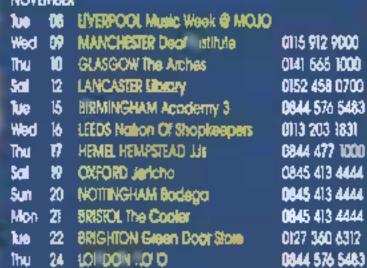
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NOVEMBER 2011





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**PLUS GUESTS** 



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SUN 09 OCT BATH KOMEDIA MON 10 OCT PORTSMOUTH WEDGEWOOD ROOMS 0229 92296 3911

THE 11 OCT BRIGHTON THE HAUNT

THU 13 OCT LEEDS BRUDENELL SOCIAL CLUB FRI 14 OCT PRESTON 53 DEGREES

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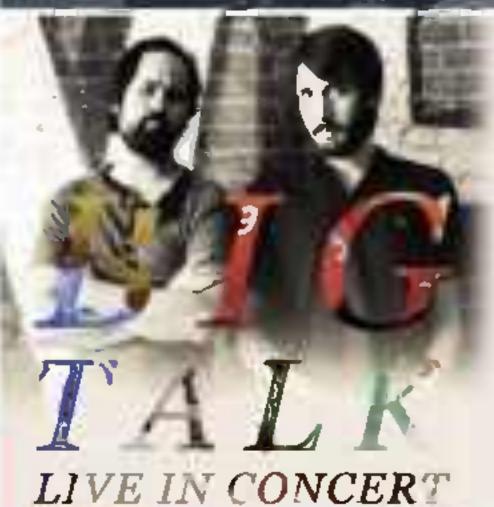
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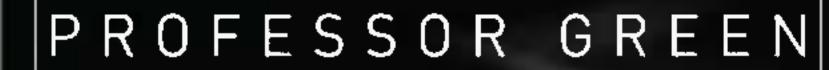








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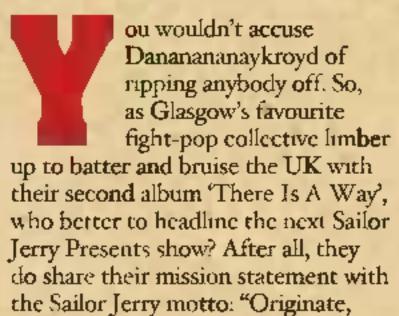




# Danananaykroyd take their fight-pop to the waters of Bristol



continues across 2001, you can find out more about the man whose signature inspired the whole thing. Homeward **Bound** is a new 120-page hardbound book, a trussure trove of unseen photos and essays collected during the making of the documentary Hori Smuker Sailier Jerry, the ultimate guide to Harman Cultins' legacy. Stockists include Garb Store in Nothing Hill, Number 6 at Brick Lane's Old Truman Brevery, Oi Polloi in Manchester and Fat Buddha in Glasgow,



The shows, the drink and the

don't imitate."

sentiment all echo the spirit of Norman 'Sailor Jerry' Collins, the father of old school tattooing, after whom the naturally spiced Caribbean rum is named. His visionary style influenced an entire generation of tattoo artists, and his impact is still felt today.

Danananaykroyd will be crashing into Bristol on October

12 to terrorise the Thekla, the city's

only seafaring venue. Tickets cost just £5 (with no booking fee) and are available exclusively through **Sailorjerry.co.uk** now.

There'll be even more news soon of another Sailor Jerry Presents night in London, all part of a musical campaign dedicated to working with like-minded musicians and artists who share an approach to authenticity, craftsmanship and, of course, have that all-important no-BS, anti-authority attitude.

### Danananavkrovd

October 12, Bristol Thekla

Tickets £5, get them exclusively from sailorjerry.co.uk

Find us on Facebook at

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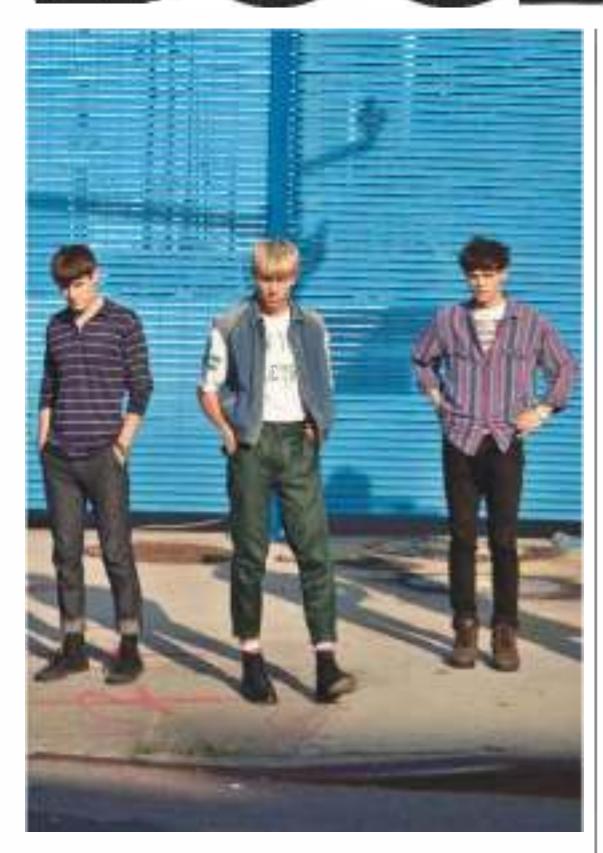


# GIGGUIDE

THE UK'S BIGGEST GUIDE TO THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Laura Snapes

# BOKING NOW



## THE DRUMS

STARTS: Birmingham HMV Institute, Nov 28

DON'T MISS

Whereas their debut bowled in with a sackful of summer spunk, wiffle ball in hand and ice cream dribbling down its chin, The Drums' forthcoming second album, 'Portamento', is the mood equivalent of having seagulls steal your pasty and shit on you. Here, shades of Wild Nothing-tinged melancholy and electronica cloud Jonathan and co's sunny disposition, making for a record that's self-referential ("I felt stupid", he sings at one stage), drowning in regret, and with a far more intriguing sonic palette than its predecessor. Have those purveyors of eternal youth grown up? All evidence points to yes - so make sure you bag a ticket to this tour to see them marching to a darker beat. NME.COM/artists/the-drums



PEGGY SUE
STARTS: London
Lexington, Sep 12
Having ditched the Pirates
and the twee, Katy, Rosa
and Olly get darker with
new album 'Acrobats'.

NME.COM/artists/

peggy-sue



FRIENDS + CAGED ANIMALS

STARTS: London Hoxton Square Bar & Grill, Sep 27

Two Brooklyn acts hotter than an STI on a summer's day hit the road to dazzle with their dreamy pop. NME.COM/newmusic



ASH
STARTS: Birmingham
HMV Institute, Oct 20
Relive your teenage kicks
with the 10th birthday of
'Free All Angels', featuring
Charlotte Hatherley on

guitar. We feel well old too.

NME.COM/artists/ash



STARTS: London Windmill, Sep 14

The gem in Secretly
Canadian's crown, Laurel
Sprengelmeyer transports
her ragged folk to Brixton.
NME.COM/artists/
little-scream



**GAGGLE** STARTS: London Royal

Albert Hall, Sep 28
The colourful coven take odd opera 'The Brilliant And The Dark' back to its original home - albeit in a smaller antechamber...

NME.COM/artists/
gaggle



HAWK EYES STARTS: Bristol Croft, Nov 8

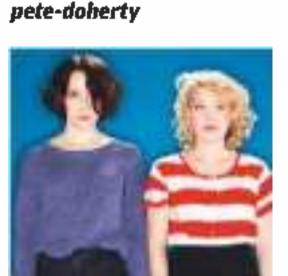
The artists formerly known as Chickenhawk terrorise the land with Turbowolf and The James Cleaver Quartet.

NME.COM/artists/
hawk-eyes



### PETE DOHERTY STARTS: Derry Nerve

Centre, Sep 15
Like a cat with a bazillion
lives, Pete's back. Betcha £5
he's in trouble again before
the end of the tour...
NME.COM/artists/



JA JA JA

STARTS: London

Hoxton Square Bar & Grill, Sep 29 The Nordic/Scandi club night returns with post-punkish teens Razika, LCMDF (pictured), and Sykur.

NME.COM/artists/razika



### JAMES BLAKE

STARTS: Leeds University, Nov 25

A Mercury nod and 200k sales worldwide - 2011's been good to Blakey. Alright for some, eh? NME.COM/artists/ james-blake



### **FACTORY FLOOR**

STARTS: Bristol Arnolfini, Sep 24 London brutalists in

London brutalists join forces with dub chanteuse Anika and Hype Williams for this one-off Bristol show.

NME.COM/artists/factory-floor



THE LEISURE SOCIETY

STARTS: Exeter Cathedral, Oct 14

The graceful English indie poppers join Laura Marling on her tour of vestries and vaunted buildings.

NME.COM/artists/
the-leisure-society



### DOG IS DEAD

STARTS: Nottingham Rock City, Dec 17

Dogs are for life, not just for Christmas - though DID are still off home for a raucous Chrimbletide shindig. NME.COM/artists/ dog-is-dead



Our customers can get Priority Tickets to thousands of gigs across the UK up to 48 hours before general release.

What to see this week? Let us help



### **END OF THE ROAD FESTIVAL**

STARTS: Dorset Larmer Tree Gardens, Sep 2

NME PICK Peacocks roaming the ground, warm spicy cider sold from a bus, and secret forest shows? Hello paradise! Over its six-year history, End Of The Road have proven that it's possible to do a small, independent festival with a line-up just as good - and far more distinctive - than its bigger compatriots. This year, headlining slots come from Beirut, fresh from releasing their wonderful third album 'The Rip Tide', everyone's favourite harpy Joanna Newsom, and Mogwai, ready to bring some sonic destruction fit for the craggy countryside. While EOTR has a reputation for being folky, this year they've shed that once and for all - The Fall (try calling Mark E Smith "folky" to his face), synth dazzlers Austra, one-woman carnival Tune-Yards and cloaked queen Zola Jesus all play. Once you arrive, you'll never want to leave. NME.COM/festivals



### Everyone's Talking About **HEALTH**

STARTS: Oxford Jericho Tavern, Sep 1

No new album news from the LA noise rockers just yet, but any excuse to let HEALTH rip your eardrums from hole to hole is one worth leaping at. Their shows are no exercise in basic destruction - rather an athletic explosion running riot around fretboards and synth gizmos, thrilling and throbbing in equal measure. NME.COM/artists/ bealth



### Don't Miss WHITE DENIM STARTS: O2 Academy 2

Liverpool, Aug 31

White Denim are the kind of band teenagers would sell their siblings to be in. Last time NME saw them live, they illustrated their deranged, hectic noodlings with gross, gurning sex face that'd put Ron Jeremy to shame, and looked like they were having more fun than you ever will from showing your sister's boyfriend her baby pictures. NME.COM/artists/ white-denim



### **Radar Stars** THEME PARK STARTS: London

Lexington, Aug 31

While their name might nod to giddy thrills and puking all over yourself while upside down on a helix, London four-piece Theme Park are actually made of much milder stuff (in a good way, of course), Think Bombay Bicycle Club getting a case of the Balearics and listening to a lot of Talking Heads: sexy, strutting, and definitely worth a repeated spin. NME.COM/newmusic

# WEDNESDAY

August 31

BELFAST

**Nightbox 5tiff Kitten 028 9023 8700** 

BIRMINGHAM

The One Twos/The British

Kicks/Kidgloves O2 Academy 3 0870 477 2000

BRIGHTON

East 17 Concorde 2 01273 673 311 Rizzie Kicks Green Door Store

07894 267 053 Ron Sexsmith Komedia

01273 647 100

BRISTOL

Curse You Damn Kid/Dr Nut Croft (Main Room) 0117 987 4144

In Your Honour/Skinny Machines/ Fleece 0117 945 0996

Tempestora/TLI/Cynotia Croft (Front Bar) 0117 987 4144

CARDIFF Mike Fantastic Clwb Ifor Bach

029 2023 2199 COVENTRY

Cage The Elephant Kasbah

024 7655 4473 DERBY

The Flatliners Victoria Inn.

01332 204 873

DUNDER Wobble'n'Boab Doghouse

01382 227080 EDINBURGH

Joan as Police Woman Liquid Room

0131 225 2564 **Rod Jones** Cabaret Voltaire

0131 220 6176

FALMOUTH Big Deal Toast 01326 219 255 **GLASGOW** 

Cults Nice'n'Sleazy 0141 333 9637

LEEDS

Into It Over It/Koji Fenton

LEKCESTER

LIVERPOOL

0844 549 9090

**Dolly Parton** Echo Arena

White Denim/Royal Bangs 02

The Animals & Friends/Steve

Cropper + The Animals Borderline 020 7734 5547

**Cashler No 9** Bloomsbury Bowling Lanes 020 7691 2610

Zed Punk 0871 971 5418

Electricity in Our Homes Hoxton

Men's Club 020 7739 2772

Good Suns Barfly 0870 907 0999 Lauren Aquilina/Jamie Abbott Regal

O'Casan/Films Of Colour/Ian De Sylva 93 Feet East 020 7247 6095

CSS Stereo 0141 576 5018

0113 245 3908

The Daydream Club/The Papermen Musician 0116 251 0080

Best Coast/Stealing Sheep Mojo

0844 8000 400

Academy 2 0870 477 2000

LONDON

Deedee Loves Me/Always Scarlett/

Dog State/Saltlick/Bleed To This

Nambucca 020 7272 7366

Square Bar & Grill 020 7613 0709 **Hobbie Stuart** Garage 020 7607 1818 Homework Bethnal Green Working

**Jim Stapley 100 Club 020 7636 0933** Junkyard Choir/They Say Jump/The

Room 020 8748 2834

Pulp 02 Academy Brixton 0870 477 2000

Red House Glory/Dan Webb Dublin Castle 020 7485 1773

**Sharks** Social 020 7636 4992 Theme Park The Lexington

020 7837 5387 Twin Falls Windmill 020 8671 0700

**Ultrasound** MacBeth 020 7739 5095 Velvet Stream/The Machine Gunners/We Are in Demand Buffalo Bar 020 7359 6191

MANCHESTER

Arcade Fire/Noah & The Whale Evening News Arena 0161 950

5000 Gordon Gano & The Ryan Brothers

Ruby Lounge 0161 834 1392 The Menzingers Star & Garter

0161 273 6726 NEWCASTLE

Toots & The Maytals 02 Academy 0870 477 2000

OXFORD

Willy Mason/Katy Rose/The Cavalry Parade Glee Club 0871 472 0400

STOKE ON TRENT letlive Sugarmill 01782 214 991 Jason Huxley Blakey's Cafe Ban

01782 617 585 ST ALBANS

Mavis/Audio Kinetics/Urusen Horn 01727 853 143

YORK

**Epidemic** Stereo 01904 612237 The Final Crisis/Goggle Eyed Psycho/Atlas The Duchess 01904 641 413



# THURSDAY

September 1



### **ABERDEEN**

letilive The Tunnels 01224 211121 BELFAST

**The Once** Errigle Inn 028 9064 1410 BIRMINGHAM

No ID/Baycat/The Last

Masquerade 02 Academy 3 0870 477 2000

**Taking Back Sunday HMV Institute** 0844 248 5037

BRIGHTON

Amanda Palmer Concorde 2 01273 673 311

Brakes Prince Albert 01273 730 499

Jojo & The Go Cats Latest Music Bar 01273 687 171

Timber Timbre Sticky Mike's Frog Bar 01273 749 465

BRISTOL

Checking Pulse/We Start Partys

Louisiana 0117 926 5978

East 17 02 Academy 0870 477 2000 **Loftbeat/The Flx/Character** Croft

(Front Bar) 0117 987 4144 No Time For Sightseeing/

Memorium/Wizards Croft (Main

Room) 0117 987 4144

Peter & The Harmonics/Gaz

Brookfield/The Baronesques Fleece 0117 945 0996

CARDIFF

**Po' Girl** Glee Club 0870 241 5093 Slow Down Molasses 10 Feet Tall 02920 228883

Wormrot/Evisorax Undertone 029 2022 8883

CHELLASFORD

Hadleigh Ford/Kevin Pearce/Amy Westney Hooga 01245 356 811

Mobody's Fool/Room For Abuse/ Your Weapons Are Useless Victoria

Inn 01332 204 873 DUNDEE

DERBY

**Scissors for Lefty** Doghouse 01382 227080

EDINBURGH

Arcade Fire/The Walkmen Castle 020 7771 2000

GATESHEAD

Tissue Culture/Underline Hero Three Tuns 0191 487 0666

### **OLASGOW**

The Constellations King Tut's Wah Wah Hut 0141 221 5279

Schnapps Nice'n'Sleazy 0141 333 9637 GUILDFORD

High Rise/Collapse The Control/ **URSA Major** The Star Inn

01483 532 887 Trails Boileroom 01483 539 539

LEEDS

Carbon Party/The Gonzo'sNew

Roscoe 0113 246 0778 Daniel Martin Moore Brudenell Social

Club 0113 243 5866 Secret Garden Gathering Carpe Diem

0113 243 6264

LIVERPOOL

Jimmy Cliff Philharmonic 0151 709 3789

LONDON

Absynthe Minded The Bowery 020 7580 3057

Black Iris/Screaming From The Ashes/Pot Nambucca 020 7272 7366 Channel Cairo Borderline

020 7734 5547 Gazelle Twin Electrowerkz

020 7837 6419

iceage/Eagulis/Cold Pumas/ Friendship Old Blue Last 020 7613 2478

Ispystrangers/Thousand Autumns/ Lecarla Barfly 0870 907 0999

Jack Dupon/The Dallas Explosion/ Aged Yummy Hope & Anchor 020 7354 1312

Japanese Voyeurs/Bones/Whales In Cubicles The Lexington 020 7837

5387 Jukebox Monkey/Left Of The Right

**Side** Dublin Castle 020 7485 1773 The Kixx OZ Academy 2 Islington 0870 477 2000

Lonsdale Boys Club/Jake Morley/ Michelle Stodart Old Queen's Head 020 7354 9993

Mac Miller O2 Shepherds Bush Empire 0870 771 2000 Motorcycle Display Team New Cross

Inn 020 8692 1866 Pulp 02 Academy Brixton 0870 477 2000

Ruth Bewsey/Sincere Deceivers/

Kelly Paige Zigfrid Von Underbelly 020 7613 1988

Sarabeth Tucek St Pancras Old Church

This Frontier Needs Heroes/ Zachary Cale/Cate Le Bon Windmill

020 8671 0700 Two Spot Gobi 100 Club 020 7636 0933

White Denim Electric Ballroom 020 7485 9006

MANCHESTER

Always Awake/ILoveColour Dry Bar 0161 236 5920

Fun Lovin' Criminals Ruby Lounge 0161 834 1392

Myles & Connor Band On The Wall

0161 832 6625

Sex & The Century The Castle 0161 237 9485

**Unearth Moho Live 0161 834 8180** 

NEWCASTLE Polarsets Riverside 0191 261 4386

NORWICH The Brownles/Turbowolf Arts Centre

01603 660 352 The First/24 Robbers Brickmakers

01603 441 118 OXFORD

Health Jericho Tavern 01865 311 775 READING

The Mercy House/The Kamikaze **Test Pilots** Face Bar 0118 956 8188 SOUTHAMPTON

Sean Vimton McGowan Talking Heads 023 8055 5899

SOUTHEND The Glass Child Chinnery's

01702 460440

**ST AGNES** 

01904 620 222

**Big Deal Taphouse 01872 553 095 STALBANS Later Rivals** Horn 01727 853 143

YORK **Alice Gold Fibbers 01904 651 250** 

Anne Lister/Mary McLoughlin Black Swan Inn 01904 686 911 **Definition** Kennedy's Cafe

Joan as Police Woman The Duchess 01904 641 413

# RRIDAY

### September 2

### **ABERDEEN**

Duke/Avoid The Morning The Tunnels 01224 211121

BATH

The Bush Technologists Chapel Arts Centre 0122 5404445

**BELFAST** 

Ironik Scratch 028 9050 9750

BINGLEY

BINGLEY MUSIC LIVE Fun Lovin' Criminals/Skindred/The Go! Team/Young Guns/Alice Gold 0871 2300010

BIRMINGHAM

Circus Town/Turn Off The Sun Hare & Hounds 0870 264 3333 Death By Disco/Sunset On

Suburbia/Stereo Espionage 02 Academy 3 0870 477 2000

The Musgraves/El Burro Actress & Bishop 0121 236 7426 Ron Sexsmith Town Hall

0121 780 3333 Van Morrison Symphony Hail 0121 780 3333

BOURNEMOUTH

Dirty Goods 60 Million Postcards 01202 292 697

The Mercy House Sound Circus 01202551802

BRIGHTON Cannabis Corpse The Hydrant

01273 608 313 Johnny Clarke/Soothsayers Arts

Club 01273 727371 Machinedrum/Anxst/Manni Dee

Concorde 2 01273 673 311 BRISTOL

Anthony Noel/Polly & The Billets Doubt/Lonely Tourist Mr Wolf's

0117 927 3221 Tender Trap/The Short Storles/ Our Arthur Croft (Main Room) 0117 987 4144

[Me]/The Experimental Pop Band Fleece 0117 945 0996

CAMBRIDGE

LODESTAR FESTIVAL CSS/Cage The Elephant/The Violet Bones/Rubber Kiss Goodbye 01223 813 318 Josienne Clarke/Flaming June/Ben **Walker Corner House 01223 352 047** 

CHILMSFORD

**BROWNSTOCK MUSIC FESTIVAL** Example/Athlete/The Milk/Ms

Dynamite/Killa Kela 07592 070 956 Things We Lost in The Fire Hooga 01245 356 811

COVENTRY Warehouse Republic Kasbah

024 7655 4473 CREWE

**Bleached Wall** The Box 01270 257 398 DERRY

Natty Waller & The Reggae Vibes Playhouse 028 7126 8027 DUNDER

**Moving Pictures** Doghouse 01382 227080

EDINBURGH

Maximo Park Liquid Room 0131 225 2564

GATESHEAD

Former Cell Mates/ Jackhammers/The Central

0191 478 2543 GLASGOW The Moth & The Mirror/Amber

Panic Room/David R Black Cathouse 0141 248 6606

**Wilson** Captain's Rest 0141 331 2722

The Whisky Works Stereo 0141 576 5018

LEEDS Junip Brudenell Social Club 0113 243 5866

Toots & The Maytals 02 Academy 0870 477 2000

### **LIYERPOOL**

Rialto Burns/White Widows/Raw City Shipping Forecast 0151 709 6901 LONDON

Amanda Palmer Heaven 020 7930 2020

Charly Coombes & The New Breed 100 Club 020 7636 0933

Code 500/Furs Masks/My Private Life 93 Feet East 020 7247 6095 The Corderoys Hope & Anchor 020 7354 1312

The DeRellas Boston Arms 020 7272 8153



Hackman/Graphics Star Of Kings 020 7278 9708

**Heads.Hearts/Das Fluff Cargo** 0207 749 7840 Jessica Irvine/Sanna Arvidsson

Constitution 020 7387 4805 Joker's Dozen/Bad Wolf 229 Club 020 7631 8310

Kids Can't Fly Scala 020 7833 2022 Lisa Moorish/Emily Rawson Arts Club 020 7460 4459

Megafaun/Gideon Conn The Lexington 020 7837 5387 **Muck & The Mires** Fiddler's Elbow 020 7485 3269 Pokey La Farge Bethnal Green

Working Men's Club 020 7739 2772 Starshapes/Buildings Garage (Upstairs) 0871 230 1094 Surgical Noise/PJ/Supergene Bublin Castle 020 7485 1773

0870 4325527 MANCHESTER

Yaaks Club NME @ Koko

Attica Rage Roadhouse 0161 228 1789 The Flatiliners Night And Day Cafe 0161 236 1822

Iceage Islington Mill 0871 230 1094 Indigo Moho Live 0161 834 8180

Mac Miller Academy 3 0161 832 1111

The Versions/Reigning Magple/ Rescue The Eskimo Dry Bar

01612365920 **MILTON KEYNES** 

Lecaria/Thousand Autumns Craufurd Arms 01908 313 864

**North Darset** 

END OF THE ROAD FESTIVAL Beirut/ Lykke Li/Clap Your Hands Say Yeah/ Best Coast/Dry The River/The Growlers/The Fall/The Walkmen/ Joan as Police Woman/Tune-Yards/ Micah P Hinson/Caitlin Rose

0871 230 1094

**NEWCASTLE** The Dee Tees O'Neills 0191 269 3001 The Enzymes Star |nn 0191 222 3111 Foon Yap The Station 0871 230 1094 Heckler/Victory Mansions/ **Downtown Lester Brown Dog &** 

Parrot 0191 261 6998 Minotaurs/The Union Choir Cluny 0191 230 4474

NOTTINGHAM

Exhibit A Tap & Tumbler 0115 941 3414 Urban Intro The Approach

0115 950 6149 **Wormrot** Old Angel inn 0115 947 6735

OXFORD **Dubwiser** Cellar 01865 244 761 East 17 02 Academy 2 0870 477 2000

01865 241 261 **PORTSMOUTH** Chumbawamba Cellars

Marysia Starosta The Regal

READING The Great Mistakes South Street Arts

Centre 0118 960 6060 SALFORD

**Humanizer** St Philip's Church 0161 834 2041

0871 230 1094

SHEFFIELD Decode/This Way Up/The Northern **Generals** Plug 0114 276 7093

SOUTHAMPTON Taking Back Sunday/The Xcerts/I

Am Giant Guildhall 023 8063 2601 STOKE ON TRENT

The Blue Collars Sugarmill 01782 214 991

01782 416 567 TRURO

**Big Deal** B Side 01872 241220 **THUBRIDGE WELLS** The Bluetones/Goldray/The Social

**Club** The Forum 0871 277 7101

Minister Of Justice Harry's Bar

WANTAGE Shattered Dreams/Refugees Of

01235 767 584 WEIGHAM

**Doctor P/Funtcase Central Station** 

Culture/Best Served Chilled Swan



# SATURDAY

September 3

### **ABERDEEN**

**Skerryvore** Lemon Tree 01224 642230

### BELFAST

**The Illegals** Empire 028 9024 9276 Wormrot/Evisorax Auntie Annie's 028 9050 1660

### BINGLEY

### **BINGLEY MUSIC LIVE Maximo**

Park/Feeder/Mystery Jets/ Athlete/Jon Fratelli/White Denim/ Dot Rotten/Dionne Bromfield 0871 2300010

### BIRWINGHAM

Dirty Mindz/Flatline Stereo/ Tumbulis Actress & Bishop 0121 236 7426

The High Fidelity Hare & Hounds 0870 264 3333

Mac Miller HMV Institute (Library) 0844 248 5037

### BOURNEAGUTH

Reef/Not Advised/ThePeteBox/ Checking Pulse/Friends Electric 02 Academy 0870 477 2000

### BRIGHTON

Blacklodge The Globe 01273 770 685 BRISTOL

Rita Lynch The Oxford 0117 977 6494 Turbowolf/Dinosaur Pile-Up/ Scarlett Rascal & The Trainwreck Croft (Main Room) 0117 987 4144 CAMBRIDGE

### LODESTAR FESTIVAL The Datsums/ Worship/Kill It Kid/Auction For The Promise Club/A Genuine

Freakshow 01223 813318 CARDIFF

**DJ Shadow** University 029 2023 0130 The New Regime Clwb Ifor Bach 029 2023 2199

The Pooh Sticks The Globe 07738 983947

### CREWE

Aiready Gone The Box 01270 257 398 DERBY

The Draytones Victoria Inn

### 01332 204 873

DUNDEE letilve/To Kill Achilles/Higher Than Kites Beat Generator 01382 229226

One Week's Notice/Waiting On Jack/Tropic Doghouse 01382 227080 EDINBURGH

**Bryan Ferry** Castle 020 7771 2000 Giles Walker/Hobbes/Discopolis Bongo Club 0131 558 7604 Make Sparks Sneaky Pete's

### 0131 225 1757 EXETER

Trash City Cavern Club 01392 495 370

### **GLASGOW**

Alasdair Roberts/Moon Unit/ **Divorce 5WG3 0141 357 7246** Indiecode/Revolt/The Heretics 02

Academy 2 0870 477 2000 **Suspire** The Arches 0141 565 1000

### **HIGH WYCOMBE**

The Bombjacks/The Bangs/ **Gaylord Nag's Head 01494 521768** ISLE OF MAN

The Christians Villa Marina 01624 628855

### LEEDS

**Ageless Oblivion Cockpit** 0113 244 3446

Extra Curricular Cockpit Room 2 0113 244 3446

keage Nation Of Shopkeepers 0113 203 1831



Megafaun Brudenell Social Club 0113 243 5866

The Urban Voodoo Machine/The Rocketeers/The Administrators Wardrobe 0113 222 3434

### LEICESTER

Kingsize Musician 0116 251 0080 LIYERPOOL

Manifesto/Masterfly/Careless **Thieves** 02 Academy 2 0870 477 2000 Pokey La Farge Zanzibar

0151 707 0633 Sarabeth Tucek/Random Family St. Bride's Church 07932 543 900

Secret Garden Gathering Heebie Jeebies 0151 709 3678 **Steve Young Band Shipping Forecast** 

01517096901

**Van Morrison** Empire 0844 847 2525 LONDON

The Adjusters Buffalo Bar

020 7359 6191 The Apocryphalites/Def City Collect Hope & Anchor 020 7354 1312

Attica Rage/L Sol Tace/Kopperhed

Nambucca 020 7272 7366 **Band Of Holy Joy** Borderline 020 7734 5547

Beth Steel/Dead End/Et Tu Bruce? Arch Angel 020 7938 4137

Bloody Mary/Cryogenica/CalatrilloZ Electrowerkz 020 7837 6419 Brutal Horizon/Nya/Prometheus

The Milfer 020 7407 2690 Casino Royale/Tir Na Nog Barffy

0870 907 0999 Circle of Fear New Cross Inn.

020 8692 1866 Constant Fear/Snide/Bring To Ruins

Grosvenor 0871 223 7992 Cursor Miner/Debasser/

Rival Consoles Rhythm Factory 020 7247 9386 Deronda K Lewis Purple Turtle

020 7383 4976 Essra Mohawk/That Legendary

**Wooden Lion** Bridgehouse 2 020 3490 4857

221 0100 The Flatliners Boston Arms 020 7272 8153 0870 477 2000

The Fresh & Onlys/Fair Ohs The Lexington 020 7837 5387

Guillaume & The Coutu Dumonts/ **D'Julz** Cable Club 020 7403 7730

Hannah Williams & The

Tastemakers 100 Club 020 7636 0933 Help Stamp Out Loneliness/The Would-Be-Goods/Amor De Dias Bull

& Gate 020 7485 5358 Hot Beds/Black Shades/CoConf Roadtrip 020 7253 6787

Howi Griff/Oscar Suave & The Wrong 'Uns/Very Nice Harry Dublin

Castle 020 7485 1773 Jimmy Cliff Indigo @ The O2 Arena

0870 70I 4444 Oliver Lang/Ant Brooks/Russ Yallop

Lightbox 020 3242 0040 Rounds/Shells/Tankilo Old Blue Last

020 7613 2478 **Taking Hayley** O2 Academy 2 Islington 0870 477 2000

The Whybirds Cargo 0207 749 7840 MANCHESTER

Acid Drop/Revenge of the Psychorinic Man/Rising Strike Satzn's Hollow 0161 236 0666

Mr Scruff Band On The Wall 01618326625

The Peacocks Gullivers 0161 832 5899 Ron Sexsmith Bridgewater Hall 0161 907 9000

Silence Rises/The Madding Crowd Roadhouse 0161 228 1789

### North Berset

**END OF THE ROAD FESTIVAL** Mogwai/Wild Beasts/Gruff Rhys/ Bob Log III/Dan Mangan//Okkervii River/M Ward/The Unthanks/ Phosphorescent/Jolle Holland/ James Yorkston/Beth Jeans Houghton 0871 230 1094 NEWBURY

WOOLFSTOCK FESTIVAL British Sea Power/6 Day Riot/Angelsle/ The Kieptones/Paris Riots 0843

NEWCASTLE Diamonds in The Dirt 02 Academy 2 Minotaurs/Foon Yap/The Union Choir Cluny 2 0191 230 4474

The Reasoning Cluny 0191 230 4474 The Zoos Cornerhouse 0191 265 9602 **NORWICH** 

Darwin & The Dinosaur Waterfront 01603 632 717

### NOTTINGHAM

Evil Scarecrow/Isolysis/Mantra/ Triaxis Rock City 08713 100000 The Hubris/The Pulpits Chameleon

0115 9505097 Sophie Barker Bodega Social Club

### 08713100000 OXFORD

Alamakota Folly Bridge Inn 01865 790 106

**Stornoway** The Regal 01865 241 261

READING Amy's Ghost South Street Arts Centre 0118 960 6060

Aubrey Dye-Welch Rising Sun Arts Centre 0118 986 6788

### Captain Hotknives/One Band Man

The Red House 0114 2727875 Invisible Idols Corporation 0114 276 0262

### SOUTHAMPTON

SHEFFILLD

Burnski/Simon Aston/Rhymos Junk Club 023 8033 5445

Observing The Ghost Soul Cellar 023 8071 0648

**Swinghr' Utters** Talking Heads 023 8055 5899

### Sworn To Oath Sugarmill 01782 214 991

**STOKE ON TRENT** 

### ST ALBANS The Animais & Friends Alban Arena 01727 844 488

WAKEFIELD Gent leman's Pistols The Hop

0871 230 1094 YORK

**Apart From Rod The Duchess** 01904 641 413 Engineers/Tom Morris Stereo

01904 612237 Terrorvision Fibbers 01904 651 250

# SUNDAY

### September 4

### BELFAST

The Illegals Empire 028 9024 9276

**BINGLEY MUSIC LIVE Chase And** Status/The Coral/Eliza Doolittle/ Wretch 32/Stereo MCs (DJ)/ The Sunshine Underground 0871

Attica Rage/Sevendaze/Cheap Thrills 02 Academy 3 0870 477 2000 Diamond Lil/Twinkle The Sluts/ Scar The Crow Actress & Bishop 0121 236 7426

0121 443 4725

(Main Room) 0117 987 4144 Fallen Child/Ashestoangels/

0117 945 0996 Skull/Relentless Fish/Matt Bass Croft (Front Bar) 0117 987 4144

### CAMBRIDGE

LODESTAR FESTIVAL The Magic Numbers/Gypsy & The Cat/Little Barrie/Tigers That Talked/Scholars 01223 813 318

### CARDIFF

Alexander Tucker 10 Feet Tall 02920 228883

**Dolly Parton** Motorpoint Arena 029 2022 4488

**Public Enemy University** 029 2023 0130

Cannabis Corpse The Old Bell 01332 343701

Muck & The Mires/Minnesota **Voodoo Men/Thee Mummles Curse** The Central 0191 478 2543

Iceage/Eaguils/Jackie Onassis Captain's Rest 0141 331 2722 Mac Miller/Mikili Pane 02 ABC

01413538000

James Yorkston Brudenell Social Club 0113 243 5866

Sound Engine/Red Light City/Selby Green New Roscoe 0113 246 0778

### LEKESTER

Davey Arthur Musician

### 0116 251 0080 LIVERPOOL

Wibidi Shipping Forecast

### 0151 709 6901

LONDON Ariymla/Circle Of Reason Dublin

Castle 020 7485 1773 Rams Pocket Radio/Violet/Baron Arts Club 020 7460 4459

Starseed New Cross Inn 020 8692 1866

Swingin Utters/JD & The FDCs Underworld 020 7482 1932

Thomas Nola Bar & Co. 020 7836 7594

Toy Hearts/The Cedars/Henry **Brothers** Windmill 020 8671 0700 Wooden Shjips/Wolf People Scafa 020 7833 2022

### **North Dorset**

NEWCASTLE

**END OF THE ROAD FESTIVAL** Joanna Newsom/Midlake/Laura Marling/Tinariwen/Willy Mason/ Emmy The Great/John Grant/Josh T Pearson/The Leisure Society/ Woods/Megafaun 0871 230 1094

Gallery Circus/Early Maze The Tyne 0191 265 2550 Panic Room/David R Black Cluny

0191 230 4474 Sarabeth Tucek/Random Family

### Cluny 2 0191 230 4474 **MOTTINGHAM** Captain Dangerous/Christopher

0115 958 8484 Illuminatus/Sworn To Oath Stealth

Dawson/The Exiles Rescue Rooms

### 08713 100000 **PORTSMOUTH**

**Mud Morganfield Cellars** 

### 08712301094

READING High Rise Face Bar 0118 956 8188

### SOUTHAMPTON

Aynsley Lister Brook 023 8055 5366 WOLVERHAMPTON Toots & The Maytals/Jimmy Cliff

CopOwt Kennedy's Cafe Cyb3rnator Stereo 01904 612237 Sophie Barker Fibbers



BINGLEY

2300010

### BIRMINGHAM

**Sunrise** Kitchen Garden Cafe

### BRISTOL

Benny Sensus/Drop Vinyl Croft Secrets For September Fleece

Treefight For Sunlight Thekla 08713 100000

DERBY

### GATESHEAD

**GLASGOW** 

### 0870 903 3444

### Civic Hall 01902 552121 PJ Harvey Royal Concert Hall YORK 01904 620 222

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DO YOU WANT TO GET YOUR BASH INCLUDED IN THE NME WEEKLY GIG GUIDE? GO TO NME.COM/GIGS AND SUBMIT YOUR LISTING FOR FREE. YOU MUST SUBMIT DETAILS AT LEAST THREE WEEKS BEFORE THE GIG DATE

# MONDAY

September 5



### BIRMINGHAM

Public Enemy HMV Institute 0844 248 5037 Tir Na Nog Kitchen Garden Cafe

0121 443 4725 BOURNEMOUTH

Adele International Centre 0870 111 3000 BRHSTOL

Big Dea! Thekla 08713 100000 Health/Idles Start The Bus 0117 930 4370

Swingin' Utters/Moral Dilemma/ The Exposed Croft (Main Room) 0117 987 4144

CARDIFF

The Bluetones Glee Club 0870 241 5093

Rainbow Arabia/Cate Le Bon Buffalo Bar 02920 310312

CARLISLE

letlive/Horizons/As Long As We Live Brickyard 0 228 512 220 EXETER

Red Mist Cavern Club 01392 495 370 GATESHEAD

Joan as Police Woman Sage Arena 0870 703 4555

### GLASGOW

East 17 02 ABC 0870 903 3444 Ron Sexsmith 02 ABC2 0141 204

Sarabeth Tucek Captain's Rest 0141 331 2722

LEEDS

Wooden Shjips Brudenell Social Club 0113 243 5866

LEICESTER

Moonlight Sinatras The Donkey 0116 270 5042 LIYERPOOL

Iceage Wolstenholme Creative Space 07949 520 900

LONDON

Cat's Eyes Queen Elizabeth Hall 020 7 0 4242

Dakota Jim & His Family Orchestra Cable 5 r et Studios 020 77901309 The Drums Hoxton Square Bar & Grill

020 7:1 0709 **D Generation** Borderline 020 7734 5547

Grouplove XOYO 020 7729

**Lightning Oust The Lexington** 020 7837 5387

Lonely Tourist/Slow Down Motasses/Futur Primitif Windmill 020 8671 0700

Section 11 Dublin Castle 020 7485 1773

Stza Crack/David J Roch Old Blue Last 020 7613 2478

**MANCHESTER** 

Austra Deaf Institute 0161 330 4019 Blonde Redhead Academy 2 0161 832 1111

Bob Log III Ruby Lounge 0161 834 1392

Centrifuge #13 The Castle 0161 237 9485

Kurt Vife & The Violators Sound Control 0161 236 0340

NEWCASTLE **Duke Special Cluny 0191 230 4474** 

Hopes Die Last Trillians 0191 232 1619 NOTTINGHAM

Treefight For Sunlight Bodega Social Club 08713 100000

SHEFFIELD Cannabis Corpse Corporation 0114 276 0262

YORK The Jezabels Stereo 01904 612237

# TUESDAY

### September 6

### BIRMINGHAM

Lecarla/Thousand Autumns Actress

& Bishop 0121 236 7426

BOURNEMOUTH

**Dolly Parton International Centre** 0870 111 3000

BRIGHTON

Big Deal Prince Albert 01273 730 499 BRISTOL

Cannable Corpse Croft (Main Room) 0117 967 4144

Soey/Messi/Jack Holmes Croft (Front Bar) 0117 987 4144 CARDIFF

Willy Mason/The Staves/Dan Lefkowitz The Gate 0871 230 1094 CHELMSFORD

IC7/The OK Club Hooga 01245 356 811

GATESHEAD 2 Włseguys/Dirty Work/Mike Gatto Band Three Tuns 0191 487 0666 GLASGOW

Checking Pulse/We Start Partys Ivory Blacks 0141 221 7871

Daniel Martin Moore Captain's Rest 0141 331 2722

The Jezabels King Tut's Wah Wah Hut 0141 221 5279 Kurt Vile & The Violators/Woods

Stereo 0141 576 5018 Public Enemy 02 ABC

0870 903 3444 Wormrot/Evisorax 13th Note Cafe 0141 553 1638

LEEDS Duke Special Brudenell Social Club 0113 243 5866

Jimmy Cliff Q2 Academy 0870 477 2000

Sarabeth Tucek/Random Family Oporto 0113 245 4444

LIYERPOOL

Wooden Shjips/Mugstar/Bernie Connor Kazimier 0871 230 1094 LONDON

Austra Scala 020 7833 2022 Bionde Redhead Union Chapel 020 7226 1686

Dead Red Sun The Bowery **020 7580 3057** Dirty Boller/Xavier & The Gotta-

Doo's Bar Vinyl 020 7485 9318 Doug Paisley Old Blue Last 020 7613 2478

The Drums The Lexington 020 7837 5387

Ethan Ash The Wheelbarrow My First Tooth Old Queen's Head 020 7354 9993

Rainbow Arabia Shacklewell Arms 020 7249 0810 Suum Cuique Shebeen Cable Street

Studios 020 77901309 Teebs/Jeremiah Jae/My Panda Shall Fly Corsica Studios 0207 703 4760

The Treatment Borderline 020 7734 5547 Tresors/I'm Kingfisher Dublin Castle

020 7485 1773 MANCHESTER

Beirut Academy 0161 832 1111 The Black Angels Academy 2 0161 832 1111

Dan Le Sac Vs Scroobius Pip Ritz 0161 236 4355

Jolie Holland Ruby Lounge 0161 834 1392

This As A Standoff Night And Day Cafe 0161 236 1822 Treefight For Sunlight The Castle

0161 237 9485

MEWCASTLE Bob Log III Clury 0191 230 4474 East 17 02 Academy 0870 477 2000

**NOTTINGHAM** 

Caltiin Rose Bodega Social Club 08713 100000

Ron Sexsmith/Rachel Sermanni Rescue Rooms 0115 958 8484

OXFORD Don Gallardo Folly Bridge Inn.

01865 790 106 POOLE

Neal Wilkinson/Ash Soan Mr Kyps 01202748945

READING

The Bluetones 5ub89 0871 230 1094 SALFORD

Joan as Police Woman 5t Philip's Church 0161 834 2041 SHEFFIELD

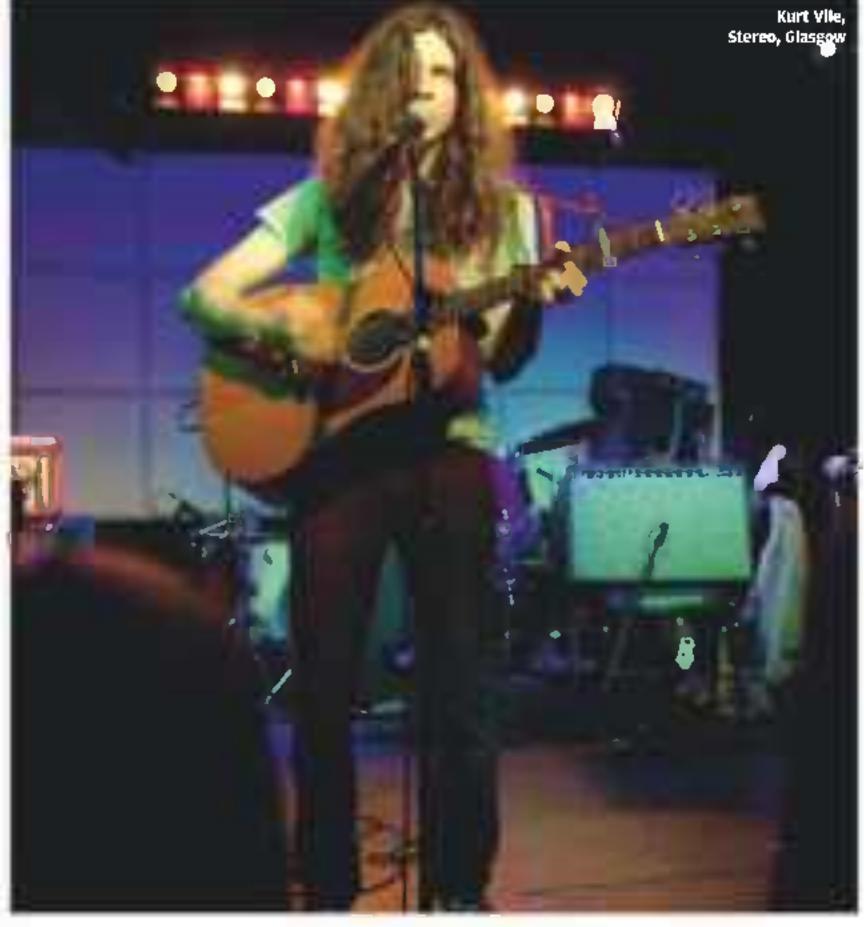
Ciap Your Hands Say Yeah Queen's Social Club 0114 272 5544

SOUTHAMPTON Lanterns On The Lake Joiners

023 8022 5612 STAMFORD

Mark Morris/John Quinn/Richard Gombault Mama Liz's 01780 765888 YORK

Dan Mangan The Duchess 01904 641 413





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# THIS WEEKIN 1972

IGGY PHONES ALICE, BOWIE FLOPS, YES SUCK









### **EDGE OF BORING**

A good few years before punk will make them look redundant overnight, prog giants Yes have got a new album, 'Close To The Edge', out. NME is not digging it, though: "In words of one syllable," writes Ian MacDonald, "they have made the elemental mistake of developing their facility with structure to the detriment of any consideration of content. They ain't got no heart, is what I mean. They are not just close to the edge, they've gone right over it." Punk rock cannot come soon enough, it seems.

### DANCING HAS-BEEN?

David Bowie's 'John, I'm Only Dancing' is not very well received, with Danny Holloway declaring himself "disappointed" with this new single. "David is capable of doing so much better," he writes. "There's screeching vocals from Bowie, and Mick Ronson's agitating guitar, the result being an irritating combination. He's had more exciting tunes, like the B-side 'Hang On To Yourself', from the 'Ziggy...' album. I'm really surprised that a man with such monumental talent couldn't come up with a more solid offering."

### ALICE AND FRIENDS

es, Slade have a tour, but far more intriguing is the story just above that which concerns Alice Cooper. On page five, the headline of Nick Kent's interview runs: 'All American College Boy Behind The Transvestite Juvenile Delinquent Alter-Ligo'. The story begins the night after Alice and band have been "whooping it up at a well-known night spot alongside such celebs as Bowie and Jeff Beck".

Midway through the interview, Iggy Pop phones Alice for a chat. "You can just imagine the conversation," writes Kent "Alice with his slouchily articulate accent vs Iggy's snot-drenched Detroit drawl Alice shakes his head at the end of the phone call: 'You know, I always worry about that boy."

On topic, Alice talks next about his late friend Jun Morrison, "He was so internally hurt, he'd do all these crazy stunts like falling out of windows of two-storey buildings and never getting his wounds attended to." I his leads to one last question: did Alic - c his own image building to such a 126 that the only honourable way out would be to exit in the grand style of all the other great rock star d aths?

"God, I hope not," he replies. "No, it'll just get bigger and bigger until there are maybe 60 dancers onstage and it's all completely crazy. After that..."

Alice Cooper shrugs his shoulders. Decisions, decisions ...

## ALSO IN THE ISSUE THAT WEEK

- · Frank Zappa describes drug use as "a partlyestablished social concept that I don't personally identify with".
- Clue number 'One, Across' in the 'Musical Expressword' is: "Number One girl last year for Rod (6, 3)." Mr Stewart is Number One in the Singles and the Albums Chart at present.
- Bill Withers' 'Just Bill' is nearing the top of the US charts. "My music is morale music, not message music," he states. "Morale for people in the ghetto."
- Slade's new single 'Mama Weer All Crazee Now' is described as "samey": "It would be good to hear a new approach, to see if it's the band that makes the hit, or just their sound."
- · Jimmy Cliff is plugging his film The Harder They Come, which opens this week. "For the reason that it will help people to understand the importance of reggae, I want it to be a big hit," he says.



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TAXING THE FINEST MINDS IN ROCK'N'ROLL FOR SIX DECADES

Compiled by Trevor Hungerford



## A BAG OF NME SWAG



### **CLUES ACROSS**

1+11D There's absolutely nothing wrong, although we do have a complaint. It's just part of 'This Modern Glitch' (3-7-7)

Boingo, eight-piece band from Los Angeles fronted by Danny Elfman (5)

10 Remix of 'Yesterday' is about right for Ellie Goulding (6-4)

12 "And the vision that was planted in my brain still remains within the sound of \_\_\_\_\_", Simon And Garfunkel (7)

13+24D The rest get confused about Alf Moon being associated with Pete And The Pirates (4-4-6) 15 (See 28 across)

16 Covert and secret side of Massive Attack (3) 17 Little Boots took a step in putting things right (6) 19 Saul Milton and Will Kennard are better known as & Status (5)

21 Dutch female group \_\_ Tai had top ten hits in 1985 with 'History' and 'Body And Soul' (3) 22 American band that collaborated with Billy Bragg on the 'Mermaid Avenue' albums (5)

23+29D Drummer for Green Day (3-4) 25 Many eager to include producer who's worked with XTC, Frank Zappa and Bryan Ferry (3) 26+37A Five years on and nothing's gone wrong yet

for Lily Allen (7-5) 28+15A Triffids' album is amongst some evergreens (2-3-5)

30 Has end come about for bassist with Bombay

Bicycle Club (2-4) 33 He said 'Fuck It ( I Don't Want You Back)' and went to number one (5)

34 '\_\_\_ F' turned for Clock in 1995 (4) 36 Rates very badly the duo formed by Brett Anderson and Bernard Butler (5) 37 (See 26 across)

### CLUES DOWN

2+14D Blink-182 didn't stop work until this number saw the daylight (2-3-5) 3 My organ dips, somehow, to the music of

Radiohead (7-4)

4 Get into carefree bopping with African musician who played with Traffic and Can (6)

5 "Stop making the \_\_\_ at me, I'll stop making the \_\_\_ at you", opening line to Arctic Monkeys' 'I Bet You Look Good On The Dancefloor' (4)

6+7D "Let's grow old together and die at the same time", 2009 (2-4-2-4)

9 Jazz/blues singer whose hits include 'Ain't Got No/I Got Life' and 'My Baby Just Cares For Me' (4-6) 10 Bloc Party were due to play, therefore our presence was required (2-4-2-3)

11 (See 1 across)

14 (See 2 down) 18 Malcolm \_\_\_\_\_, was manager of the Sex Pistols

and Bow Wow Wow (7)

20 Abba came to a certain place in their career with this number one album (7)

24 (See 13 across)

27 '\_\_\_\_ Said The Clown', but only jokingly to Manfred Mann (2-2)

29 (See 23 across)

31 "And school's out early, and soon we'll be learning, and the lesson today is how to \_\_\_", from The Boomtown Rats' 'I Don't Like Mondays' (3) 32 Friendly Fires experiencing the 'Hawaiian \_\_' (3) 35 Elliott Smith album available from the box office (1-1)

Normal NME terms and conditions apply, available at NME.COM/terms.

Simply cut out the crossword and send it, along with your name, address and email, marking the envelope with the issue date, before Tuesday, September 6, 2011, to the following address: Crossword, NME, 9th Floor, Blue Fin Building, 110 Southwark Street, London SE1 OSU.

First correct one out of the hat wins a bag of CDs, T-shirts and books!

### AUGUST 13 ANSWERS

### **ACROSS**

1+34A Switchblade Smiles, 7+28A How Come, 9+5D Ashes To Ashes, 10 Hot Fuss, 11+13A Rolling Stones, 15 Aerosmith, 19 ELP, 21 Turning Japanese, 25 Deftones, 31 Ana. 32 Rope. 33 Post.

1+16D Stairway To Heaven, 2 Inhaler, 3 Cassius, 4+22D Boo Radleys, 6+30A Eat To The Beat, 7+18A House Of Fun, 8 Wish, 12+14D Going Under, 17 Span, 20 LP, 23 I'm Free, 24 Echo, 26 Oates, 27 Stop, 28 Cars, 29 Maps, 31 All.

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## OLLECTORS CORNER

### MADONNA

Call yourself a super fan? Here are the gems that no Madge obsessive should be without



### INNER CITY BLUES: MARVIN GAYE (98)



Madunna contributed a version of the soul legend's 1976

single 'I Want You' for this tribute compilation, teaming up with Massive Attack after they requested her vocal on the track. Despite a video being shot, the song was never released as a single following an apparent disagreement.

Need To Know: Madenna originally turned down the chance to record this because she was doing vocal training for her part in Evita.

### YOU CAN DANCE

(15k1)

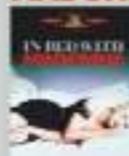


Miss Ciccone's first remix album was released at the height of her

fame in the '80s, during a time when remixing was still seen as a hit of a novelty. As well as reworkings of songs from her first three albums, 'Madonna', "Like A Virgin' and 'True Blue, the collection featured a new track, 'Spotlight'.

Need To Know: One of the remixers was Madonna's ex-boyfriend, John 'Jellybean' Benitez, who went on to score LIK chart success on his own that year.

### IN SED WITH



There's a host of Madge tour documentaries but this is the best. Focusing

on her Blond Ambition jaunt, cameras follow Madonna everywhere. She argues with boyfriend Warren Beatty, is informed she'll be arrested in Toronto if she performs the show's 'masturbation scene', and gags when Kevin Costner calls the show "neat".

Need To Know: In America. the documentary is known as Truth Or Dare.

### EVITA OST (1990)



soundtrack to Alan Parker's film musical about iconic

Argentinian First Lady Eva Perón, which saw Madonna give her most convincing performance as an actress to date. Alright, Jimmy Nail's on It as well, but Madonna's vocal performances are a surprise, and a slap in the face for her critics who had previously complained about her limited vocal range.

Need To Know: 'You Must Love Me' won both the Oscar and Golden Globe for Best Original Song.

# FANMAIL

### YOU GET IN TOUCH, WE RESPOND, THINGS GET OUT OF HAND

Edited by Jamie Fullerton







FACEBOOK.COM/ NMEMAGAZINE



TWITTER.COM/ NMEMAGAZINE



NME.COM/BLOGS



# SOME MIGHT SUE

### From: Gav To: NME

While it does certainly raise a faint smile in me that Oasis still command enough attention to send news outlets - both on TV and in print and web - into overdrive, the news this past week concerning libels and law courts just makes me realise what a self-centred, embarrassing bunch of pricks the Gallaghers have become. Outside of their ever-enlarging bubble of bullshit, the economy is in ruins, there are wars being fought both at home and abroad and - for fuck's sake - Wretch 32 is Number One in the charts. It makes me sad that these two millionaire twonks can't even be bothered to put all their energies into their music anymore - all they do is chuck out some half-baked songs and get on with the main event of airing their dirty laundry in public, endlessly shouting off about how hideously difficult their relationship is. People need to get over it. More importantly, Liam and Noel need to get over it.

### NME's response...

This was the first letter we got sent after news broke that Liam Glad withdrawn his threat to sue Noel over big bro's claims that his singer was too hungover to play V Festival

Chelmsford in '09 (rather than having laryngitis, which Liam claimed and - keep upt - Noel subsequently admitted is true). Fact is, no-one's going to sum up the

general feeling towards the bickering bros in a more nail-on-the-head way than a plea for them both to simply "get over it". Perhaps a quiet pint à In Pete'n'Carl would be a

good place to start? Speaking of which ... - JF

Get in touch at the above addresses, Winners should email.letters@vme.com to claim their voucher

### WHAT A WASTE(R)...?

### From: Andy and Bex To: NME

We are huge Libs fans, especially of Peter. It tore our hearts apart to see them separated. It certainly must have been very hard for both and it was awful for their fans to see them unhappy. But when we saw the picture of them together it was very touching. We're not expecting a reunion, even though it would be the best thing ever. We wish the best to Bilo and Biggles!

### From: Emily Marmara To: NME

The other day I read the article about Pete Doherty's reaction to Amy Winehouse's death on NME. COM. I just hope this means he will sort himself out and get himself clean so the same thing doesn't happen to him. I am sure most Libertines fans would love to see them back together, with the photo of Pete and Carl posted on Twitter being a good start.

### From: NME To: Andy, Bex, Emily

Andy and Bex, you are truly a pair from my own heart (a place in which The Libertines are regarded as an entity as important as oxygen). But any more Libertines shows without new material would instantly align them with, well, with all the other nostalgia-scraping acts hogging half the headline slots at this summer's festivals. It's great that they've been getting on again recently on some level, but hopefully any chats they have been having over gin in teacups have asserted the above point. Maybe the tragedy of Amy has helped sharpen Pete's focus towards music again too. Maybe... - JF

### RIOT RUMBLINGS

### From: Dean Courtney To: NME

Hamish MacBain's column on the riots last week [August 20, 'Riots devastate UK indie music' cover] was one of reactionary disgust. Some of the comments made serve only to place the blame on a particular section of society. The people who perpetrated these crimes have inconsistent ideas of why they are rioting, more than likely because they are so disengaged with our society that they have no care for their surroundings or communities. We need to listen to them, rather than putting in reactionary comments that serve only to move them further away. MacBain complains about the use of anarchistic lyrics in punk music. The Clash lyric "I want a riot of my own" has been drawn out of context, and stripped of its metaphorical sense; the Pistols' "get pissed, destroy" is not a calling card for kids to burn down their local Carpet Right in 2011. It even goes on to Odd Future, an artist whose albums burned in the PIAS fire, but almost indicates that they deserve this for singing "kill people, burn shit, fuck school". Listing lyrics that are irrelevant and positioned to seem like they incite violence makes you sound like Mary Whitehouse. Do young people act out in these ways because of what they hear in music? Do young people actually use music as a means to release feelings of their

frustration? Is it not possible for our kids to be eloquent enough to put into song their feelings of anger, in an attempt to be listened to, rather than to incite violence? Let's learn from the mistakes, let's re-engage these people, let's attempt to rebuild a safe future, let's not exclude anybody.

### From: NME To: Dean

Hamish MacBain writes: "I don't understand how anyone could have read that piece and drawn that conclusion. Your response to a piece you have quite clearly not read, much less understood, makes you the reactionary. I don't really feel any need to justify further this article, but if I must, here we go with a version in simple English. Hove punk music, I don't blame the riots on punk, I don't understand how you think I'm attributing the riots to punk. The piece says: 'All the half-arsed peeps who preach danger, then condemned the rioters, you need to consider what you're really about.' The end." - JF

### MISSING THE MUSIC

From: Robert Procter To: NME

Ten years ago when The Music came out you couldn't get enough of



### **STALKER** From: Meghan North To: NME

A photo of me with Dog Is Dead at Underage Festival a couple of weeks ago. They were such lovely lads.

them, yet now they have played their last ever gig, back on August 6, and you don't even give a review of the show! This is a disgrace, instead you give pages of bulishit on Laura Marling, etc. The Music came in with a fresh new sound that no-one had, whereas with Laura Marling, if anyone was that interested in that area of music they'd look hard enough to find a whole genre out there of the same stuff. You lot need to sort yourself out!

### From: NME To: Robert

Most of the people in the UK who cared about The Music buggering off were probably at the very gig you speak of, so gave them their own teary goodbye. Not to piss all over the memory of The Music, mind

# Web Slinging

The highlight of this week's NME.COM blogs

### IS DAVID BOWIE RETIRING -AND SHOULD HE?

Dear David, Please don't retire. Not yet. It's not your time. I know you've reached the pension period of your life, have been quiet of late, have a young daughter, have given us way more than pretty much any other artist since the mid-'60s, and it's your decision, but still. Don't go just yet.

We need you more now than ever before. In the week Gaga unleashes her latest pop pastiche and the nation battens down the hatches and prepares for the four-month onslaught of The X Factor having you around becomes even more pressingly important. To

### Best of the responses...

There's something quite dignified and appropriately Bowie-like to simply, quietly retreat into the background. Fortunately his musical influence lives

other senior artists were on - he is namechecked by

every relevant new band.

Lemar, if there's any justice

in the world you'd be still

My dad gave me 'Ziggy Stardust' on vinyl when

James, there's a checklist

I was 14. Come back when you're ready, Mr Bowie. Kevin Harper

jumping on the Jubilee Line

to see you at the O2 while

some of your peers took

a raincheck.

During the London riots, and now afterwards, I was

I first heard you when I got my hands on a generational hand-medown of 'The Man Who Sold The World' and from that epic opening eight minutes onward I knew I'd need to go out and get a better stereo. It blew a teenager's tiny mind on impact and from then on, through the plastic soul years, Berlin trilogy and the rest, I was all kinds of smitten.

If nothing else, could we cheekily ask for one last Greatest Hits tour, for me and the others yet to see you live? Here's hoping your retirement is brief and we see you onstage soon. Read Tim Chester's blog in full at NME.COM/blogs

thinking how good it would be if David came back to his old town to cheer us up. He is, after all, a Londoner. Averille Ex



doing the rounds while

Craig Johnson

- a cracking band who outlasted the majority of their over-hyped peers of the 2001/2 era - JF

### WHAT A BLACK **VEIL FAIL?**

From: James Kitchen To: NME

I'm sorry, but who the helf are Black Veil Brides? I saw them in your issue [NME, August 13] taking up three whole pages going on about their make-up. To be quite honest, the music isn't up to much and we've already got one Kiss to cope with, let alone a rubbish-looking tribute band. And also why let us know about wank bands' new singles (Blink-182, We Are The In Crowd, TOM FUCKING FELTON?!?!)? We want to know about indie bands who have lyrical and musical talent, like more Arctic Monkeys and Kasabian. Apart from that loving the mag and the Clash article.

### From: NME To: James

we go through when we decide which bands to feature in NME. They either 1) Make new music so exciting they make us want to rip our shirts off and twirl them round our heads like Olympic hammer throwers. 2) Leave such an enormous impression on music that it's a crime worse than necrophilia to do anything but pay homage through in-depth outlining of their legacy whenever suitable, as we did for The Clash, 3) Dress like asylum-escaped lunatics with studded codpieces and refuse to peel off leg-enveloping leather trousers even when the mercury hits 35 degrees. Black Veil Brides just ticked at least one of these boxes. Single reviews, meanwhile, are governed by which singles

are released each week - JF

### **PUKKELPOP** TRIBUTE

From: Tom Atherton To: NME

Lam so sorry to hear about the stage collapse at Pukkelpop. It's such a tragedy, but surely festival stages should be designed to withstand such forces? I seriously hope that this will be looked into now.

### From: NME

To: Tom

It was a terrible tragedy and our thoughts are with those affected. As the investigations continue in Belgium, we can only hope that in future safety is the main concern for all festivals - JF

### AND ANOTHER THING...

From: Clare Heighton To: NME

What happened to 'And Another Thing'? It was a great read. Bring it back! Oh, and one more thingmore Jarmans! Isn't Gary's hair cool? And Ross'!

From: NME To: Clare Consider it resurrected! And I can only assume

you're making some kind of point about Ryan's barnet by omitting him. Hide your head in a pudding bowl in shame (and get your mum to cut around it) - JF



### STALKER

From: James Cooper To: NME

We bumped into Led Zep legend and Wolves fanatic Robert Plant outside Ewood Park. He's keeping it real!



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**ACROSS THE** 

ENTIRE YEAR

## DOES ROCKINIROLL KILL BRAINCELLS? TESTING MUSICIANS' MEMORIES AFTER A LIFETIME OF ABUSE This Week RICHARD ARCHER Is it Cambridge?"

### **QUESTION 1**

What colour is the CCTV camera on the front cover of the Japanese version of the 'Stars Of CCTV' CD/DVD?

"Red on white - the Japanese flag. It was one of our favourite sleeves so we all kept one." Correct

### **QUESTION 2**

Why did Al Murray want you to perform 'Another One Bites The Dust' when you appeared on his TV show Happy Hour in 2007?

"I guess he just liked Queen or something." Correct. He always makes guests perform a Queen song. Did you toy with any other Queen numbers?

"We went straight in for that. I like a bit of Queen like the next man, but don't think we could have pulled off 'Bohemian Rhapsody'."



### **QUESTION 3**

After the papers once claimed you were going out with Scarlett Johansson in 2007, where did you tell NME you'd met?

"It wasn't in Boots in Staines, was it?" Correct. You joked that she had got a Saturday job there. So... how did you become 'romantically linked' as they say?

MANUFACTOR

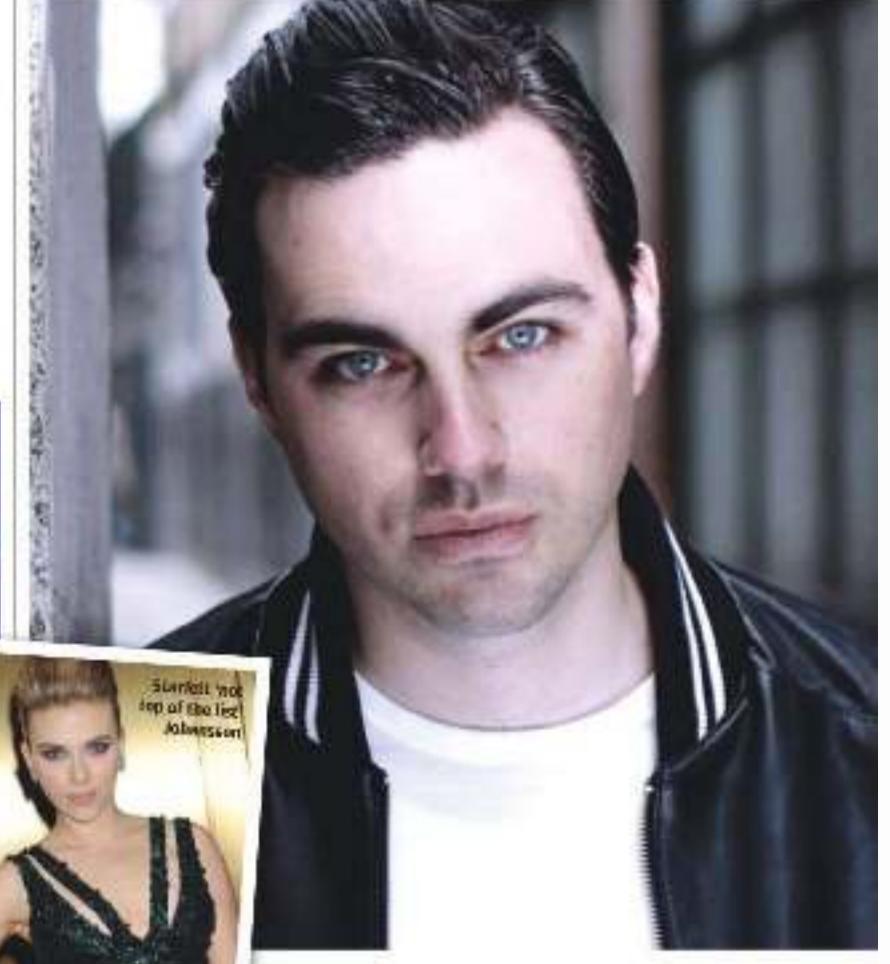
"We did three shows at the Astoria in London in December 2005. I said to a mate, 'Scarlett's in town, we should try to get her down. Wouldn't that be great? Phwoar, etc.' Months later we were

touring the States and I got a call from our press officer going, 'We've had a call from the Daily Mail saying you're having an affair with Scarlett Johansson'. I said, 'I'm not!' They ran the article anyway and the next week they ran a story saying I'm some kind of fantasist and I made it all up!"

Would you like to have gone out with Scarlett Johansson?

"She's a very attractive woman, but she's not top of my list."

# HARD-FI



Who is? "Um, I'll get back to you!"

### **QUESTION 4**

You usually come on stage to 'The Man With The Harmonica'

> by Ennio Morricone Which other band have started playing this live? "I know Metallica come on to it as well." Wrong. Muse "Ah yes. Someone sent me a link to that."

### **QUESTION 5**

The lyric "There's a hole in my pocket" from 'Cash Machine' is adapted from children's song 'There's A Hole In My Bucket'. Traffic had a 1967 hit which was then covered by Neil from '80s comedy

show The Young Ones. Except what did they have a hole in instead? "Their shoe. Everyone knows that. I don't know who wrote 'There's A Hole In My Bucket'. I hope we don't owe them a backlog of royalties."

Correct

### **QUESTION 6**

You've said Jay-Z's '99 Problems' was the inspiration for 'Good For Nothing'. If Jay-Z had five pounds for every problem, how much would be have? "£495. I used to work in a greengrocer so any arithmetic, I'm there. They didn't have a proper till so you had to work it all out in your head."

Correct

### **QUESTION 7**

What town does your new tour kick off in this month?

"Ah. This is the one that I really should know."

Wrong. Norwich "Bridge' and 'wich' sound the same, don't they?"

### **QUESTION 8**

Hard-Fi bassist Kai Stephens used to work for which pest control company? "Rentokil. Are there really any other pest control companies?"

Correct. Does he bang on about it?

"Sometimes we'll be in the studio and there will be loads of ants and he'll go, 'Why do you think they're here, man? They're not here for the vibe. They're not here for the music. They're here because you leave loads of messy food everywhere.' He gets all pest controller on our arses."

### **QUESTION 9**

You covered Britney Spears' 'Toxic' for Radio 1's 'Established' album in 2007. Name two of the outfits Britney wears in the video to 'Toxic'?

"I remember her wearing the schoolgirl outfit. No, hang on, that's not it [That's "...Baby One More Time" - Obvious Pop Ed]. I think she's an air hostess and she's also on a motorbike."

Correct. She's also a sort of superbero with black bair



### **QUESTION 10**

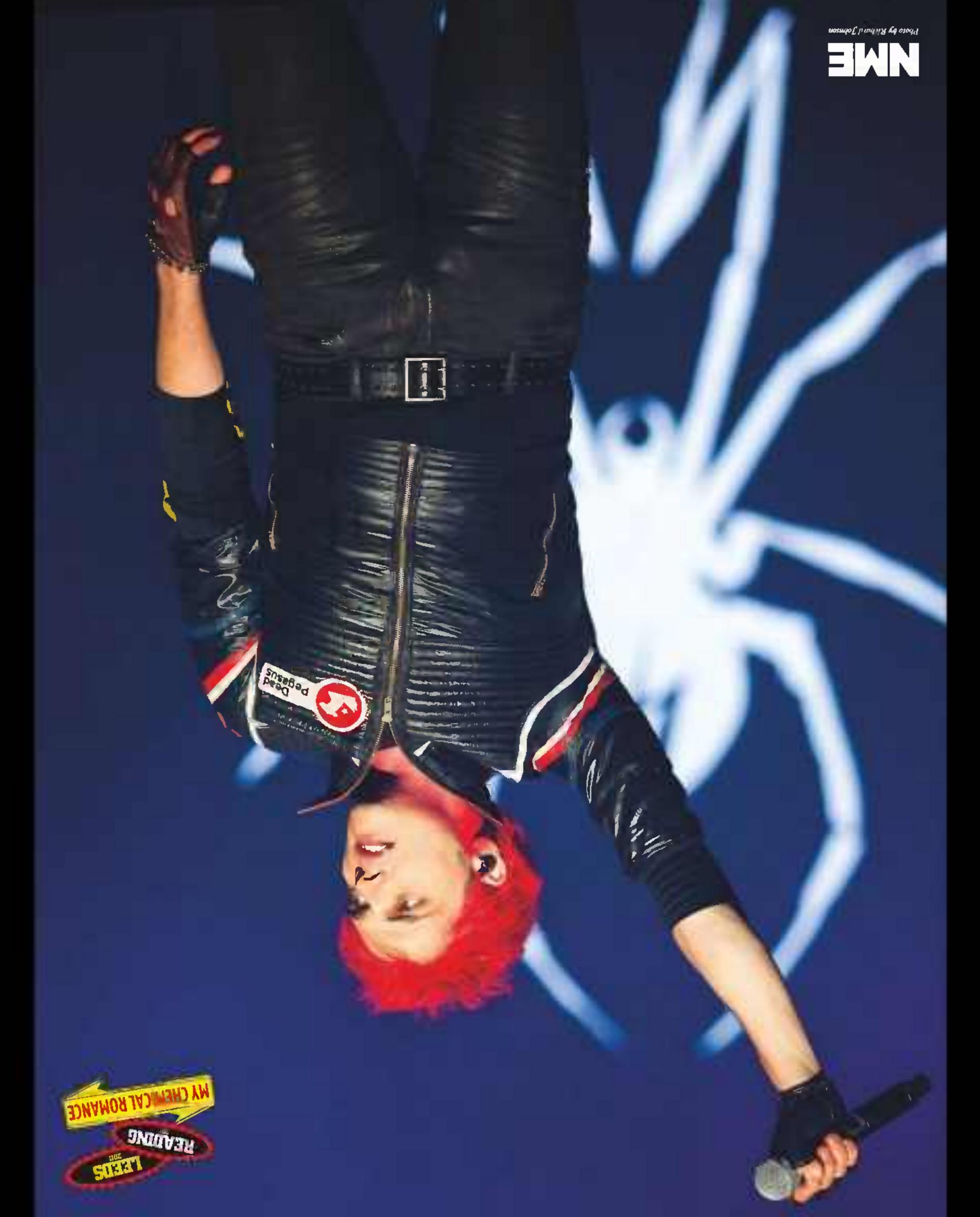
What very un-rock'n'roll exclamation do you pronounce during both videos to 'Cash Machine'? "Knickers!"

Correct

Total Score 8/10

"That's not bad. Kai could tell you the day we played the Sala Caracol in Madrid and what the setlist was. I forget what I'm doing next week."

Go to NME.COM/blogs to see the full Braincells hall of fame (and shame)







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