

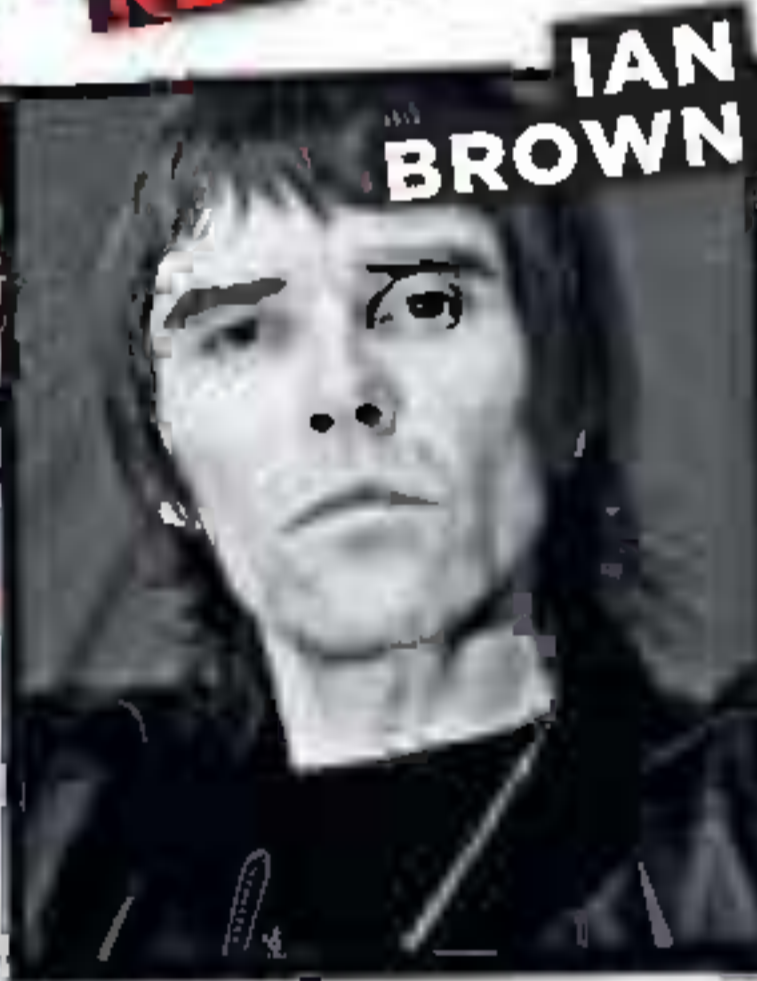
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# ON REPEAT

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



## LIL B

The Realist Ever  
Other enchantingly titled cuts like 'I Got Aids' and 'Crabs N A Bucket' are worthy of attention, but this is the best tune on 'BasedGod Velli', the latest mixtape by the man *Pitchfork* call "the tireless rap enigma".  
**Liam Cash, writer**

## GONJASUFI

Nikels And Dimes  
'A Sufi And A Killer' was one of the most tweaked and brilliant records of 2010, the handiwork of yoga instructor Sumach Ecks and collaborators Flying Lotus and chums. His new record, 'Muzzle', drops in January next year. This sounds like a ghost haunting your brain in funky robotic trousers.  
**Alex Denney, writer**

## SALEM

Better Off Alone  
Turn off your mobile and crack out the ketamine, for the slo-faced SALEM are back with a typically glacial and grandiose take on Alice DeeJay's 1999 chart-dance banger from new EP 'I'm Still In The Night', out now. The video features Gisele Bündchen, because witch house is so hot right now, babes.  
**Emily Mackay, Reviews Editor**

## PULLED APART BY HORSES

VENOM  
As an opening salvo from the Leeds noisemongers' new LP, 'Tough Love', this certainly feels like a statement of intent. Surprisingly raw and outstandingly heavy, it builds to a crushing metal outro that nods to vintage Motörhead.  
**Tom Goodwyn, writer**



## SHARON VAN ETTEN

Serpents  
The first song from forthcoming album 'Tramp' is ravaged, propulsive, full of howling slide guitar and SVE witheringly invoking her darkest thoughts against a manipulative foe: "Serpents in my mind trying to forgive your crimes". The bitterness suits her down to the ground.  
**Laura Snapes, Assistant Reviews Editor**

## KING KRULE

Potrait In Black And Blue  
As opening lines go, "Spastic gyrations in abbreviated bathing suits" is up there with the best of them, and the rest of this song is a similarly unique slice of suburban glimmer-pop that makes Archy Marshall the Spectrals in Burberry. And if his swimwear's getting smaller, his profile's just getting bigger.  
**Jamie Fullerton, Features Editor**

## LEILA

(Disappointed Cloud) Anyway  
Laptop prophet Leila Arab returns with a compelling collaboration with Mt Sims. A heartbroken 'found voice' spins in and out of synth tangles like a paper-thin Caribou or a coldwave Hot Chip, before the whole thing cracks to reveal a mass of wild circuitry within.  
**Priya Elan, Deputy News Editor**

## TAMARYN/FORD & LOPATIN

Flying Dream  
The 100th release on LA's Mexican Summer label is a split seven-inch on which Ford & Lopatin produce this glitchily gliding dawn haze of a track by icy dreampoppin' labelmates Tamaryn (plus a nice collab with Light Asylum on the flip).  
**Duncan Gillespie, writer**

## TENNIS

Origins  
Produced by Black Keys beanpole Patrick Carney, Tennis' return is a tantalising taste of forthcoming album 'Young And Old'. Despite being drenched in sublime Motown piano chops, it's the fragility of Alaina Moore's vocals that push it over the edge.  
**Matt Wilkinson, New Music Editor**

## FOO FIGHTERS/JOAN JETT

Bad Reputation  
Performed on US TV and live at NYC's Madison Square Garden earlier this month, this version of Jett's 1980 bubblegum punk gem heaps on some Dave Grohl shredding and grows a whole new set of stoner rock legs. It's still kinda guilty pleasure territory – but definitely incendiary.  
**Rick Martin, News Editor**

TRACK  
OF  
THE  
WEEK

## YUCK

Soothe Me

In August *NME* spent two days in Seattle with Yuck. Alongside tales of poisoned dogs and trigger-happy policemen, the band grizzled away on such subjects as their slacker rock lineage, their fear of America, and their reluctance to answer dumb questions. At one point a documentary maker grabbed them for a chat about the threat of the internet for indie bands. Frontman

*Daniel Blumberg's whine carries beautifully across the slo-mo melody*

Daniel Blumberg – DIY holiness pounding through his veins – yanked his shirt over his head and rocked awkwardly, moaning, "I can't do this." It was like a fuzzy rewind to 1990, watching Kurt at his

insubordinate best. Yuck, it seems, are so indie it hurts.

Which makes it all the more weird to be repackaging their barely 10-month-old debut with a load of B-sides as an obvious cash-in on their new semi-fame. Worry not, though. It's worth it for this, the one new tune on the record. Unsurprisingly, it's no reinvention. Blumberg's trademark whine carries beautifully across the downbeat slo-mo melody as guitars intertwine over a choral falsetto (a nod to a bigger, more heavily produced sound on the next record, possibly?). There's a whiff of Blumberg's glum side-project Oupa in the opening bars, but once you've banished those thoughts it's a timely reminder of one of the year's most brilliant debuts, and a peek at their exciting future.

**Mike Williams, Deputy Editor**

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# UPFRONT

WHAT'S HAPPENED AND WHAT'S HAPPENING IN MUSIC THIS WEEK

Edited by Rick Martin

## REVEALED: THE BANDS WHO WILL ROCK 2012'S FESTIVALS

With *T In The Park* and *Download* already showing their impressive hands, we get the inside info from the people crafting next year's biggest bills

### MAIN EVENT

Festival season may have only wound down a couple of months ago, but in the music industry's corridors of power, 2012's line-ups are already shaping up. Contracts are being signed, bands are being bagged, massive slots are being filled. From old hands like **The Killers**, **Muse** and **Kasabian** (not to mention **The Stone Roses**) to mid-level bands ready for the step up, it's already looking like it'll be a pretty massive summer. Glastonbury may be taking a year off, but with Vince Power's relaunched Phoenix Festival set to (sort of) plug the gap, the bookings are coming thick and fast. Going to *T In The Park*? You'll already know the Roses' 2012 resurrection will be continuing in a field in Balado, a week after their three-day Heaton Park blow-out. Meanwhile, *Download*'s organisers have seen fit to unveil all their headliners: **The Prodigy**, **Metallica** and a newly reformed **Black Sabbath**. Earlier this week, *Isle Of Wight* Festival announced **Bruce Springsteen** as their first headliner. And don't expect the heads of the UK's other major festivals to be resting on their laurels

It's not difficult to start narrowing things down with certain bands. With a Number One album to tour (and no Glasto), **Coldplay** will be looking for somewhere to take their lasers – and one highly placed source has already strongly linked them with *V Festival*. The insider also tipped **The Killers** to head up *Isle Of Wight* after finishing their new album (they're

currently in the studio), with *V Festival* and *T In The Park* also thought to be in contention. Reading and Leeds has also been mooted as a possible return point. Although organisers have been tight-lipped on web rumours that next year's R&I headliners will be **Green Day**, **Foo Fighters** and **The Prodigy**, the bookies seem pretty certain on the first two, with *Willam Hill* offering 7/4 and 6/4 on the US heavyweights, respectively, with the Prodigy a little further out at 4/1.

Exclusivity also looks to be a feature of next year's festival bills. While there'll be some big names you'll be seeing at more than one event (the Roses are being widely tipped for *V Festival*), with some bands it'll be case of fans being at the right festival at the right time. According to Festival Republic chief Melvin Benn, exclusivity deals are becoming increasingly common. "I think it's certainly going to happen more and more," he predicted at a music industry Q&A session last week (November 15). "Coachella, for instance, said to **Kings Of Leon**, and at least one of next year's headliners, that they've got an entire North American exclusivity."

Whispers suggest **Muse** have also signed a similar agreement, with one difference – that it covers Europe rather than just the UK. And this is where things get interesting, as it doesn't necessarily mean they won't be playing more than one festival, given



that *Sonisphere* tours the continent throughout the summer. Speaking at the UK Festival Awards, *Sonisphere* organiser Stuart Galbraith wouldn't be drawn on whether **Matt Bellamy** and co would be playing next year. He did

confirm that "three great names" were in place to head up the bill in 2012 – which

**"It's a festival organiser's duty to take a chance"**

**STUART GALBRAITH, SONISPHERE**

may well turn out to be **Foo Fighters**, **Green Day** and **Blink-182**,

given that he confirmed he was in talks with this trio back in July. Four months on, he's told fans to expect another headlining debut in 2012 following **Biffy Clyro**'s set at the festival this year. "People say there aren't enough headliners around, but I disagree," he said. "It's a festival organiser's duty to take a chance and help elevate a band to that level. If you give them the opportunity they'll step up in the way that **Biffy Clyro** did last year."

And it's not just bands in the metal arena that look set to progress – **Florence + The Machine** played their first headline show at *Latitude* in July 2010 and seem certain to follow it with an even bigger headline slot next year (our money's on *Bestival*). How high up **The Horrors** are elevated after 'Skying' smashed the UK Top Five also remains to be

### WHO'S IN, WHO'S OUT?

This is who you should be seeing in next year's big festival headline slots

#### READING AND LEEDS (AUGUST 24-26)

In contention: **The Prodigy**, **Green Day**, **Foo Fighters**, **Arctic Monkeys**, **The Killers**  
Seriously unlikely: **Muse**, **The Stone Roses**

#### V FESTIVAL (AUGUST 18-19)

Strongly rumoured: **The Stone Roses**  
In contention: **Coldplay**, **Foo Fighters**, **Muse**, **The Killers**, **Florence + The Machine**

#### T IN THE PARK (JULY 6-8)

Confirmed: **The Stone Roses**  
In contention: **Foo Fighters**, **The Killers**, **Snow Patrol**, **Muse**

#### DOWNLOAD (JUNE 8-10)

Confirmed: **Black Sabbath**, **Metallica**, **The Prodigy**  
In contention: **Blink-182**, **Tool**, **The Prodigy**  
Denied: **Chase & Status**

#### SONISPHERE (JULY 6-8)

In contention: **Foo Fighters**, **Green Day**, **Blink-182**, **Rammstein**, **Muse**

"Who put that giant 'K' there? I can't see a bloody thing"

**"WE WON'T BE INCREASING THE CAPACITY"**

**How's your bill for 2012 coming along?**

**We've heard rumours about Prince...**

**A lot of people are seeing Bestival as the natural alternative to Glastonbury this year...**

With Glastonbury...



*Our writers have revealed their dream  
headliners – head to NME.COM to join  
the debate and get tickets to 2012's festivals*

# SPEED DIAL MICK JONES

The punk legend reveals he'll be playing Clash songs again for the first time in 30 years and dishes his Pete'n'Carl studio secrets

## How did you get involved in the Hillsborough Justice Campaign?

"Me and Pete Wylie went to play a benefit show for them earlier this year. And now we've been given access to a lot of the papers [about the disaster], so we're maybe getting a bit closer to finding out what happened, but obviously we need money to go through all that stuff. So me, Pete Wylie and The Farm all thought we might as well try and do a tour."

### Why were you keen to get on board?

"I got really close to a lot of people in Liverpool in the punk days. And I don't think it's just the people from Liverpool; it's football fans everywhere, because the truth has never been known."

### What songs will you be playing?

"A few from the past, but it's all going to be modern renditions. We're not trying to chase any illusions of the past – obviously I'm not going to sing a different tune or nothing like that *(laughs)*."

### Are you allowed to say which songs they'll be?

"Let's say there's gonna be some favourites in there. I don't know what your favourites are, but we might be doing them."

### The opening night of the tour will be the first time you'll have played them in a while – how do you feel?

"I'm happy to do it. But I'm doing it like I am now, not trying to be whatever I was,



you know? The songs seem to have grown with age in some way – well, either they have or I have *(laughs)*."

### How will the evening pan out?

"The main set will feature The Farm, Pete and I. Then we'll maybe have some guests, a few different bits and some speeches, rather than just your regular gig set-up."

### The 10-year anniversary of The Libertines' 'Up The Bracket', which you produced, is coming up – what are your memories of those sessions?

"It was such a long time ago now! But I remember it took us a couple of weeks to get into it. I was trying to figure out

how to record them, so they must have thought I was really lazy because I wasn't doing anything. I was looking at them through the window of the studio thinking, 'How am I going to record these guys?' They must have thought, 'Wow, this guy's not doing anything.' But then I started to get an idea, and we recorded it very much together, trying to get something going, get some momentum in the room. And we were quite contrary to what a lot of people were doing at that time. It was anti-production, in a way."

### How did you go about creating that atmosphere with Pete and Carl?

"It was very much like being a lion tamer: you go in with your chair and whip, and you lock your door behind you *(laughs)*."

### Would you like to see the band get together to mark the anniversary somehow? Do you keep in touch with them?

"Oh, I don't know about anything like that. I might see them all occasionally, or one or the other. Does Pete still live in France? I'll try a carrier pigeon to send him a message."

### Are you working on new music yourself right now?

"Not really. It's more a bridge between now and then... I can't say any more. I never really know what I'm doing."

## Why Hillsborough Matters

The 1989 disaster saw an FA Cup semi-final between Liverpool and Nottingham Forest abandoned when 96 fans were killed in a crowd crush. Many details of what happened are still unknown, which is why Jones has got involved with the Hillsborough Justice Campaign. "I've been told by people who were there that Liverpool fans conducted the rescue operation," he says. "I can remember watching it now..."

### Can we infer that you might be revisiting some from your past?

"No, I don't want to say anything like that, you know what I mean? I'm just trying to follow my nose and see where it takes me."

### Any chance we could tempt you to tell us a couple of Clash songs you'll be playing?

"OK... we're gonna do 'Armageddon Time'. And let me see, what else. I think Pete Wylie might be singing 'Stay Free'."

### What about ones you're singing, though?

"*(Laughs)* Well, you asked for two! And I gave you two..."

PHOTOS: DANNY NORTH; WORDS: BEN HEWITT

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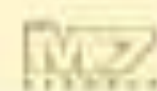


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## MARK RONSON AND KATY B'S OLYMPIC TEAM-UP

*The producer has been travelling the world recording 'Bionic Men' for London 2012*

**M**ark Ronson has exclusively revealed to *NME* that he's working with Katy B on the theme song for next year's London Olympic Games. The producer has been trekking across the Olympic nations, recording sounds of athletes training to provide the backing track for the song that will be the anthem for 2012.

"It's taking a shitload of time," he reveals. "I'm not talking about throwing a mic on a table tennis ball, I'm literally strapping up all these people who are like Wolverine or the Bionic Man and really getting inside these sounds. That was the theme of the song, to take the sounds of athletes training to make the track and then have Katy on top of it."

It sounds like a fucking mess of an idea but it's actually not, it's really amazing."

Ronson has travelled to Russia, the US, Singapore and South America on a voyage of sonic discovery. "It took me like four months travelling around getting the sounds," he said, "putting microphones in stethoscopes and taking athletes' heartbeats and stuff."

Of his choice of singer, Ronson added: "Katy made five of my favourite singles of last year so she was my only choice to be on this record and when she said 'yes' I knew that we could make a banger." And the producer admitted that writing about his hometown added extra pressure to the process. "You've got to rep your fucking town. If you make something that's shit, that's a couple of million people that you're embarrassing."

## GET MORE FROM YOUR ISSUE **NME EXTRA**

### WIN!

- A bumper crop of Cool List prizes, including:
- Tickets to see winner Azealia Banks on 2012's NME Awards Tour and tickets to The Horrors' January UK tour
- Piles of signed goodies from Kasabian, Arctic Monkeys and Cerebral Ballzy
- A rare seven-inch of Lana Del Rey's 'Video Games'
- Jarvis' new lyrics book, *Mother, Brother, Lover*

### HEAR!

- The issue playlist, including tracks from Azealia Banks, Arctic Monkeys and Hurts

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## ODD FUTURE TEASE EARL'S RETURN

*Tyler tweets that 'missing' rapper is back in the group – before revealing it's all just a hoax*

**O**dd Future fans were worked into a frenzy last week when Tyler, The Creator tweeted that the group's missing member Earl Sweatshirt was back in the studio with the collective. By the time the rapper's birthname Thebe was trending on Twitter, the group's representatives were denying the reunion was actually taking place and Tyler was revelling in his latest stunt. "Thebe said that I need the award for biggest troll of 2011," he later tweeted. Great stuff – but hardly as funny/stupid/crazy as these pranks from recent times.

### MICK HUCKNALL: DEAD

Reports of the Simply Red singer's demise in a horrific jet-ski accident spread across Twitter earlier this month, before it was finally confirmed he was in fact alive and well. Obituary writers hastily shelved their anecdotes about Martine McCutcheon being sick in his dreadlocks.

### TUPAC: ALIVE AND WELL IN, ER, NEW ZEALAND

When they could have been digging out that sex tape, hackers LulzSec were posting a story that the rapper was alive in New Zealand earlier this year. Boring.

### JUSTIN BIEBER: HIJACKED

The daddy of all vote pranks saw Justin face up to a trip to North Korea after jokers hijacked a tour poll on his website. We're still awaiting confirmation of Kim Jong-il's plus-one on the guestlist.

### FOALS: FONEJACKED

Famously jovial Foals frontman Yannis was once plagued by prank calls from a prominent northern band who would pretend to be *Coronation Street*'s Les Battersby asking to speak to his estranged wife Janice. By eck!



## THIS YEAR'S BEST MUSIC PHOTOGRAPHERS REVEALED

Layla Smethurst has been named the Grand Prix winner in the NME Music Photography Awards with Nikon, our search for the best in new band-snapping talent. Layla, who won for her portrait of Matthew Whitehouse from The

Heartbreaks, will now work at a festival for *NME* and scoop a host of top gear from Nikon. "The standard of photography was incredibly high this year," says *NME* picture director Marian Paterson. "The judges unanimously

decided this shot was the stand-out photograph of the competition. Layla is definitely a new talent to watch." There'll be an exhibition of winning shots at Printspace in London over January 4-11, 2012 – see [NME.COM/photoawards](http://NME.COM/photoawards) for a full list of winners.





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## VERSUS

# PETER ROBINSON Vs TIM WHEELER

*The Ash singer discusses the Father Christmas 'tissue of lies' and getting stuck in IKEA*



• "There are rabbits, that's true" is an effective meditation not just on Easter but on life on planet Earth in general

• Many thanks to Tim Wheeler for bringing that musing into the lives of all NME readers

• And that thing about IKEA is actually true by the way. Be careful

**Hello, Tim. What's on the horizon right now?**

"I'm going to Brazil soon for the first time – we're doing a festival. Then I'm taking a few days' holiday."

**Is your body buffed up to compete with the locals?**

"I don't think I'm going to compete too much. I don't think I'm going to get any implants."

**You have released a Christmas album with Emmy The Great. "Yes."**

**Except you wrote it ages ago, so it's basically dishonest.**

"Yes. I think that's the nature of Christmas albums – the Phil Spector one was probably done in LA in the middle of summer, right? And I guess we did start ours last Christmas when we were snowed in, and we just had to tap into that when we finished it, so it's not completely dishonest."

**Christmas is built on a tissue of lies, though, isn't it? In the 'Father Christmas' sense.**  
"Christmas is what you make it. I think it's good because the pain of [SPOILER ALERT – *Festive Ed*] discovering he doesn't exist is outweighed by the joy when you do believe in it."

**The West Sussex town in which you started the album is the same place in which Peter Andre has just opened a coffee shop. I wonder if this is of some cosmic significance?**

"We tweeted him to see if we could borrow some equipment to demo the Christmas stuff. We didn't hear anything back so he's not in our good books, and I'm sticking to Costa. We used to be on the same label as Peter Andre. I think some of the money from 'Girl From Mars' might have contributed to the recording of 'Mysterious Girl'."

**I like to think that, even if many years from now people don't remember exactly who Ash really were and you guys have crossed over into folklore much like Father Christmas himself, the fact that your work helped 'Mysterious Girl' to come into existence might be the one piece of truth that filters through the generations.**

"Yes. I'll be excited about that when I'm on my deathbed."



**Let's not talk about you dying, Tim. Let's not bring down the mood of the interview. What have you done this week?**

"I ended up going to IKEA three times, all because of this mission to put shelves up in the studio."

**Did you treat yourself to a hot dog on the way in, or on the way out?**

"I'm vegetarian, so no. I was just ruthlessly efficient this time, especially because it was only about 15 minutes before closing."

**A dangerous game – if it closes and you're still inside then you have to live there forever in the showroom area, only to come out at night.**

"That would be a good way of testing all the mattresses."

**What do you think your chances are in the Christmas chart? Do you think you'll beat off Joe McElderry?**

"Well, for a start... who is he?"

**He is a former X Factor champion.**

"In that case he's fair game and we've got a chance."

**Are you going to do an Easter album as well?**

"That's probably roth on my list of holidays, I think. The thing with Christmas is that there's a lot of pagan stuff going on too, Easter is just a bit too religious."

**There are rabbits.**  
"There are rabbits, that's true."

## THIS WEEK'S TOP 20

## THE NME CHART

- 1 3 DRY THE RIVER 'WEIGHTS & MEASURES' RCA
- 2 6 LANA DEL REY 'VIDEO GAMES' Interscope
- 3 5 BOMBAY BICYCLE CLUB 'LIGHTS OUT, WORDS GONE' Island
- 4 11 FLORENCE + THE MACHINE 'SHARE IT OUT' Mercury
- 5 1 HOWLER 'I TOLD YOU ONCE' Virgin
- 6 13 FRIENDLY FIRES 'BLUE CASSETTE' Atlantic
- 7 15 TRIBES 'WHEN MY DAY COMES' Mercury
- 8 7 KKI & THE DOVE 'THE DRUMMER' Mercury
- 9 4 THE BIG PINK 'STAY GOLD' V
- 10 18 COLDPLAY 'PARADISE' EMI
- 11 14 THE VACCINES 'WETSUIT' Capitol
- 12 20 THE DRUMS 'HOW IT ENDED' Mercury
- 13 2 SCHW 'AMBER HANDS' Virgin
- 14 9 ARCTIC MONKEYS 'SUCK IT AND SEE' Domino
- 15 10 KASABIAN 'RE-WIRED' EMI
- 16 16 JUSTICE 'AUDIO, VIDEO, DISCO' Virgin
- 17 12 NOEL GALLAGHER'S HIGH FLYING BIRDS 'AKA... WHAT A LIFE' Sony
- 18 19 MANIC STREET PREACHERS 'THIS IS THE DAY' Capitol
- 19 8 THE VACCINES 'TIGER BLOOD' Atlantic
- 20 37 GIRLS 'HONEY BUNNY' Virgin

## NME RADIO

Hear the chart rundown first every Monday at 7pm on NME Radio  
[www.nme.com/radio](http://www.nme.com/radio)

## NME TV

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TWEET EVERY MONDAY AT [NME.COM/CHART](http://www.nme.com/chart)



## NEW TO NME RADIO PLAYLIST

• THE MACHINERY 'Pelican'  
• HOWLER 'Back Of Your Neck'  
• THE DISMAY 'Hit The Ground (Superman)'

The NME Chart is compiled each week by NME Radio and is based on how many times each track has been played on the station over the previous seven days.

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# RADAR

FUTURE STARS, BREAKING SCENES, NEW SOUNDS...

*Edited by Matt Wilkinson*



## BLEEDING KNEES CLUB

*Aussie brats running wild in the States and inspiring stage invasions as they go*

**R**adar meets Bleeding Knees Club in California the day after the biggest bash on the US party calendar, Halloween. So exactly what kind of hell-raising celebrations did this rough and tumble brat-pop duo from Queensland's Gold Coast partake in? "We just got high," grins beach blonde bassist Jordan Malane with the look of someone who's far from a stranger to such activity. But at least, explains chief songwriter Alex Wall – the Ted to Jordan's Bill – they got dressed up for the occasion. "We were all witches, but I had a big bear hat. Jordan was a sexy witch."

Following a thrift store trip which sees Jordan proudly investing in a promo T-shirt for dodgy disaster movie *Twister*, we find ourselves in a Mexican restaurant plastered with pictures of Eddie Argos in Los Angeles' hip Echo Park district. Currently on a slapdash tour of the West Coast, BKC have been spending their days here chasing waves. Their evenings? They've been pile-driving through their melodic doo-wop punk, like The Cramps with bodyboards instead of leathers.

When asked if any of their songs are actually over three minutes long, they screw up their noses. "I think we have one," admits Alex, as the 22-year-olds check the 12-song-strong iPhone playlist of their forthcoming Dev Hynes-produced debut album, 'Nothing To Do'. It turns out 'Lipstick' comes in at three minutes and four seconds, but such lavishness is quickly dismissed because of its extended intro. "I hate long songs," twitches Alex from under his baseball cap. "I reckon I'm getting ADD."

Later, their frenetic show at the Echoplex is a masterclass in brevity. Joined by touring drummer Matthew Woods, the lo-fi precision and high-pitched harmonies of 'Teenage Girls' and 'Have Fun' leave the crowd – especially those expecting a full half-hour set – gasping for more. Stage invasions are commonplace back home, and they're up for encouraging similar raucousness everywhere. "If I could have my choice I'd play in the middle of the floor," says Alex. "I like having people all up in my face." Put him to the test early next year when they're back in the UK. *Leonie Cooper*

### NEED TO KNOW

**BASED:** Queensland, Australia  
**FOR FANS OF:** The White Stripes, DZ Deathrays

**BUY IT:** New single 'Teenage Girls' is out now, while BKC's debut album 'Nothing To Do' drops in March 2012

**IN THE UK:** They tour here in February  
**BELIEVE IT OR NOT:** Alex and Jordan have known each other since they were toddlers, and were born just nine days apart. Awwwww

Merry  
Christmas

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# The Buzz

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



## 1 SUNLESS 97

First came the mixtapes, fusing swirled-up variations of The Shangri-Las with Suicide and the Bhundu Boys. Then, a blissed-out and otherworldly cover of PJ Harvey's 'In The Dark Places' – in which all the pomp and acidity of the original was sucked out and replaced with a world-weary anti-glamour that made it sit somewhere between straight-up pop and lo-fi freakbeat. On Monday (November 28), the London four-piece, who are spearheaded by blast from the past and ex-Larrikin Love über-urchin Edward Eke, release their debut EP 'Making Waves'. Three days prior to that it's the live debut – at a former terrorist cell in west London (naturally). Head over to [NME.COM/newmusic](http://NME.COM/newmusic) now to hear what all the fuss is about.



## 2 TRESHING'S 'HEY YOU'

Former Spacek man Morgan Zarate and collaborator Acyde have finally officially unveiled their afrosoul-stomper 'Heyyou', after debuting it at the Boiler Room a few months back. Out on December 12, it's a catchy-as-hell stumble into the mainstream with the bitchiest chorus of the year.



## 3 LADY LESHURR

The Birmingham-bred MC's double-time flow could give speed demon Busta Rhymes a run for his dollars any day. Leshurr's dream is to work with the Young Money crew stateside, but if she continues attacking the UK like she's been doing lately, Lil Wayne might be dialing her 0121 landline much sooner than she thinks...



## 4 THE VESTALS

With one song being debuted and then deleted before pretty much anyone had the chance to actually hear it, it's fair to say the Welsh tykes are either a) nervous as fuck, or b) keen on being a proper mystery. All we know is they sound mighty promising and they're from Newport. Is that enticing or what?



## 5 LOW ROAR

Ever wondered what Thom Yorke's solo album 'The Eraser' might've sounded like stripped of the electronics? Check this pastoral new bedroom project from Iceland-via-San Francisco troubadour Ryan Karazija. He may go by the name Low Roar, but his eponymous debut album comes through loud and clear.



# DJANGO DJANGO DEBUT READIED

After two and a half years' preparation, the east London four-piece return with their first album

## RADAR NEWS

If you're reading this with a slight sense of déjà vu, don't be alarmed: Django Django is a name that bears repeating in more ways than one. The east London band first showed up in *Radar* in June 2009 amid a gathering shitstorm of hype. They then totally disappeared.

Now, they're back with an album – self-titled and released on January 30 – that belatedly and confidently announces itself as one of the best debuts we've heard all year. Still, though, bad form sneaking off like that.

What gave? "It's that weird MySpace thing of becoming a band before you really are one," says drummer and producer David Maclean. "We'd posted a couple of tracks online but there'd been no thought to touring. So we had to go away to get better live and make some actual songs. We had to learn to be a proper band, rather than a couple of guys in a bedroom making tracks."

David is the younger brother of John Maclean, formerly of awesome

Edinburgh pop pastiche-niks The Beta Band, and comparisons between the siblings' respective outfits will surely be rife. Not that he gives a hoot: "I always thought of our stuff as being more upbeat than The Beta Band's, but I guess there are links to be made. The album was really informed by our love of mixtapes. When I was growing up I wasn't really into listening to whole albums by bands, I preferred making mixtapes where you'd have like a soul track, then an acid house number or

*"We had to go away and make some actual songs"*

DAVID MACLEAN

some Fleetwood Mac. We were never that fussed about staying true to any one genre."

The result is a tune-stuffed affair that's as daft as it is expansively realised. So far so good, then. But what if the *next* record's a stinker? Would they be honest enough to tell us it was "fucking awful", as The Beta Band did with their self-titled effort?

"Ha-ha! Nah, I'd never admit to it, we'd keep it to ourselves, I think." *Alex Denney*

## BAND CRUSH



*Ghostpoet on his favourite new act*

"I really like Alt-J. They have great lyrics and it's indie music, but taking a risk – risk indie!"

It's interesting to see them now, because they're still in the development stage. Touch wood they'll go on to bigger and better things next year..."

# WIN A ROCK STAR NIGHT OUT WITH BLACK XS

**O**riginal sin, virility, addiction... they're the fundamentals of rock'n'roll, the ingredients for an explosive chemical reaction that takes place on the stage. You might think that rock'n'roll is a closed-off world, the preserve of those you watch from a distance at a gig one night, then read about on the front pages the next morning. However, with Black XS - the fiery, individual fragrances for men and women - you no longer have to observe from the sidelines. It'll take you right to the heart of the thrill.



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## JOIN <sup>The</sup> WOMBATS FOR A NIGHT OF EXCESS

*Have you ever dreamed of living the life of a rock star? You can win the experience of a lifetime with Black XS - but hurry, as it's your last chance to enter...*

**W**ith the incredible One Night Of Excess competition, you and a mate could be partying with The Wombats after their gig at Liverpool's O2 Academy. But be quick - the competition closes on December 1. So what do you win? A pair of VIP tickets to The Wombats' homecoming show on December 9, plus the chance to hear the band soundcheck, hang out at the VIP bar and live the dream at their exclusive afterparty. To top it off, travel and accommodation are included. It's all in a day's work for a rock'n'roll star - and for you too with Black XS.

**To be in with a chance of winning, head to [NME.COM/hearrockstar](http://NME.COM/hearrockstar)**

*The competition is only open to readers aged 18 and above.*



**paco rabanne**



SCENE  
REPORTFRIENDLY  
FIRES:  
SAVIDGE  
NEW BEATS

*Jack Savidge on the freshest new sounds rattling his cranium*



While we travelled the long bleak journeys between cities throughout the US and Canada recently, the soundtrack was more often than not Grouper's beautifully fragile 'Dragging A Dead Deer Up A Hill'. Now, Liz Harris has teamed up with fellow Portlander Ilyas

Ahmed to begin a new project called Visitor for Social Music, and the first indications are that it's just as lovely.

**Mano Le Tough** has been around in house music circles for a minute, but his new EP on Buzzin' Fly, 'Stories', is for me the best thing he's done. Adding his own wistful Erland Oye-esque vocals to the mix, it sparkles with music box prettiness and the kind of raindrops-on-windowsill mood that Kompakt became known for early in the decade.

Fans of Joy Orbison and Burial should check out **Dauwd** and his 12-inch, 'Whats There'. With an itchy garage drum pattern and glistening textures, this could catapult him into the major leagues when it drops later this month.

Vowel-dodger **BNJMN**'s new LP, 'Black Square', has just come out on Rush Hour (who are, in my ever-humble opinion, the best dance music label in operation today) and it's fantastic. The best tracks are warm, droney affairs that could be Plaid, Superpitcher and Manuel Gottsching having a cosy roll-around in front of the fireplace.

Finally, hunt down **Two Inch Punch**'s 'Love You Up', a marvellously mangled R&B ballad with an emoting robot on the mic. Someone's set it to some archive footage of a lady figure-skating on YouTube. Roll on the Winter Olympics.

JACK'S  
TOP 5

**VISITOR**  
'Visitor EP'

**MANO LE TOUGH**  
'Take It Back'

**DAUWD**  
'Whats There'

**BNJMN**  
'Floodgates'

**TWO INCH PUNCH**  
'Love You Up'

**NEXT WEEK'S COLUMNIST:**  
Trash Talk's Lee Spielman

5  
TO SEE  
This week's  
unmissable new  
music shows**ONEOHTRIX POINT  
NEVER**

Brudenell Social  
Club, Leeds  
November 23

**FEAR OF MEN/BOS  
ANGELES (pictured)**

Sixty Million  
Postcards,  
Bournemouth  
November 25

**SWIMMING**  
Sticky Mike's Frog  
Bar, Brighton  
November 26

**WIDOWSPEAK**  
The Castle,  
Manchester  
November 27

**OUTFIT**  
Cargo, London  
November 29



## LUCY ROSE

**LOCK TAVERN, LONDON** SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13

CAUGHT  
LIVE

In pop, the usual tactic for the diminutive of stature is to make yourself appear bigger by puffing yourself up, primping yourself

out, or hollering to the rafters. Lucy Rose, though, knows the power of the still, small stratagem. To watch this skinny, pallid, Warwickshire-born woman onstage, eyes closed, head rocking gently, is to be drawn into a quiet, narrow and intimate world where sudden swells of emotion are all the more affecting for their contrast.

Backed up by just former Razorlight man Björn Agren on deft, subtle guitar and an intensely concentrating cellist, Rose's NME Sunday Session with Marley's Mellow Mood is even more stripped back than usual. As she starts off with the tremulously gorgeous 'First', her voice is immediately familiar as the silvery sigh that overlaid Jack Steadman on Bombay Bicycle Club's 'Flaws' (as well as the most beautiful parts of 'A Different Kind Of Fix') marvelling "you've got that way of making me feel oh so scared and safe

all at once", as a red balloon drifts gently across the stage. Simple arpeggios and her light, pure trill on 'Red Face' give way to a surprising chorus, and suddenly she's big and bold with jagged edges.

If Rose is writing folk music, it's folk music informed at a basic rhythmic level by modern pop and R&B, as on new single 'Scar' ("The cover is a picture of me and my nan sunbathing," she informs us. "Clothed, don't worry"). The chilly, languid charms of 'Shiver' and the impossibly fragile

*In this quiet, intimate world, sudden swells of emotion are all the more affecting*

'Don't You Worry' exact a hushing charm that renders the Sunday afternoon crowd respectfully still. On the adorable 'Night Bus', her voice is bright and small and vulnerable, a flickering flame warming the song's bare bones.

She closes with 'Place', probably the most emotionally charged of her numbers, pleading "I would like to get to know you". Let her - she might look like just another girl with an acoustic guitar, but she could surprise you. *Emily Mackay*

NME SUNDAY SESSIONS with  
**MARLEY'S**  
**MELLOW MOOD**  
RELAXATION DRINKS

WATCH RACHEL  
SERMANNI  
LIVE FOR  
FREE!

# NEW ADVENTURES IN LO-FI WITH **NME** AND **MARLEY'S MELLOW MOOD**



**WIN THE FULL  
MARLEY EXPERIENCE**

**S**ince the NME Sunday Sessions with Marley's Mellow Mood kicked off, a new kind of live music AND a new sense of calm has been sweeping across the nation. With just you, your friends, and some of your town's favourite new acts unplugged, what more blissful way could there be to end a busy week?

So far, Mystery Jets man Kai Fish has brought his album 'Life In Monochrome' to London, and doo wop revivalists The Heartbreaks wowed the crowd in Manchester with a sensational show. You can relive the London session with video from the gig at [NME.COM/sundaysessions](http://NME.COM/sundaysessions).

Now it's the turn of Glasgow! December 4 sees Brel play host to two new acts who are pushing modern folk forward in a suitably mellow style. Four-piece Admiral Fallow take the city's finest indie traditions of Biffy Clyro and Belle And Sebastian and whip them up into some impossibly uplifting songs delivered with an energy that could rival nu folk titans Mumford & Sons. Stripped back and channelling the spirit of Marley, we reckon you're going to want to have them play round your house every Sunday from now on! We're taking things mellower still with a show from Rachel

Sermanni. So much more than a new Laura Marling, Rachel, who hails from the small Highland village of Carrbridge, spins a quirky version of folk. You're all gonna love her, trust us.

And of course, as well as the music you can chill with Marley's Mellow Mood relaxation drinks. Blended in partnership with the Marley family, it should be a perfect accompaniment to the music. You can also help spread the love by drinking it. For every one sold, there's a donation to the Marley family's official charitable platform, [love.org](http://love.org), which aims to continue Bob's work for youth, planet and peace.

[facebook.com/marleymellowmood](http://facebook.com/marleymellowmood)



Want to chill out in style? Well, we've got the ultimate Marley bundle to give away, in the form of a month's supply of Marley's Mellow Mood, a pair of House Of Marley Revolution headphones, a copy of Bob Marley's classic Legend hits compilation CD, plus a poster and T-shirt.

To be in with a chance of winning all these awesome goodies in the free prize draw, just email your name and contact telephone number to [competitions@marleybeverages.com](mailto:competitions@marleybeverages.com)

**MARLEY**





The

# COOLEST

# 2011

WHO'S THE COOLEST PERSON ON THE PLANET RIGHT NOW? THE NME COOL LIST IS BACK TO BRING YOU THE ANSWER. WHO'S IN? WHO'S OUT? AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, WHO'S NUMBER ONE? TURN OVER TO FIND OUT, BUT FIRST READ OUR TEN COMMANDMENTS OF COOL

WORDS: EMILY MACKAY, MATT WILKINSON, TIM CHESTER, PRIYA ELAN, GAVIN HAYNES, JAMIE FULLERTON, LAURA SNAPES, BEN HEWITT, BARRY NICOLSON, RICK MARTIN, SAM WOLFSON, LUKE LEWIS

- 1 WEAR THE UNWEARABLE** If you carry off a look that a mere civilian would be attacked in the street for rocking, you is da shiz.
- 2 TERRORISE THE MAINSTREAM** There's nothing cooler than making Jools Holland shlt himself.
- 3 CULTIVATE THE ENIGMA** The less we know about you, the more we want to orally pleasure you in multi-storey car parks.
- 4 BE COMFORTABLE WITH 'COOL'** The cool don't have to say they're cool. They know they're cool. Knowing you're *not* cool is not cool.
- 5 HAVE PHYSICS-DEFYING HAIR** Cool used to be about how little you could see through your fringe; now it's about how much Cochrane you've got in your curl.
- 6 BEEF UP THE BEEFS** Nothing says 'fuck you, Media Training Advisor!' more than slagging off other acts in print with nary a care for who your dressing room is pitched next to at festivals.
- 7 TURN THAT FROWN UPSIDE DOWN** 'Closure' is back, and cheering up is the new moping about like a twat.
- 8 COMEBACK WITH CONFIDENCE** Every Tom, Dick and Dodgy is reforming, so give us every ounce of nostalgia with nobs on.
- 9 INNOVATE** Credibility comes wrapped in fresh ideas as naturally as Odd Future records come wrapped in parental warning stickers.
- 10 JUST 'HAVE IT'** Sorry *Dalston Superstars*: some people are descended from a strata of our species known as Homo Bossasfookus.

Cutting your  
own hair is  
cool... but it's  
easy to miss  
bits at the back



## LIAM GALLAGHER

BEADY EYE

**A**nyone who tweets about their lunch should be lined up and fucking shot." That was Liam's verdict on the social networking revolution – and yet somehow he remains the epitome of cool in 2011. Why? The amazing clothes and hair, the brilliant bollocks in interviews ("Am I back on the booze wagon? I am the wagon"), plus instant kudos for dropping his lawsuit against his brother and turning his attentions to getting that 2015 Oasis reunion moving. **RM**



Leave your bins  
out and Ronnie  
will do the rest.

## RONNIE VANNUCCI

THE KILLERS / BIG TALK

When Killers drummer and *My Name Is Earl* lookalike Ronald Dante Vannucci Jr announced a solo album, we all assumed it would be shit (see also: Fabrizio Moretti's *Little Joy*). To our colossal surprise, 'Big Talk' turned out to bristle with glossy all-American hooks worthy of Tom Petty – but it's Ronnie's whiskey-gluggin', outlaw persona that makes the songs take flight, even if you know it's all an act. He's an old-fashioned rock star, a Cuban-heeled hedonist out to have a good time, all the time. Hats off to 2011's most unlikely icon. **LL**



We don't know  
what she's  
doing, or why,  
but we like it

## ST VINCENT

Annie Clark, force of nature: her cover of Big Black's 'Kerosene' was approved by Steve Albini himself, she loves Slayer and her upcoming collaborations – with David Byrne, Martin Scorsese, Wild Flag's Carrie Brownstein and (if rumours are to be believed) Madonna – speak for themselves. Stop bleating on about the conflicting beauty and brutality; Annie Clark has way more to offer than just that. **LS**

**What's the secret to being cool?**  
"I think being a nerd is cool. I feel like, be curious and read books. That's fucking cool."

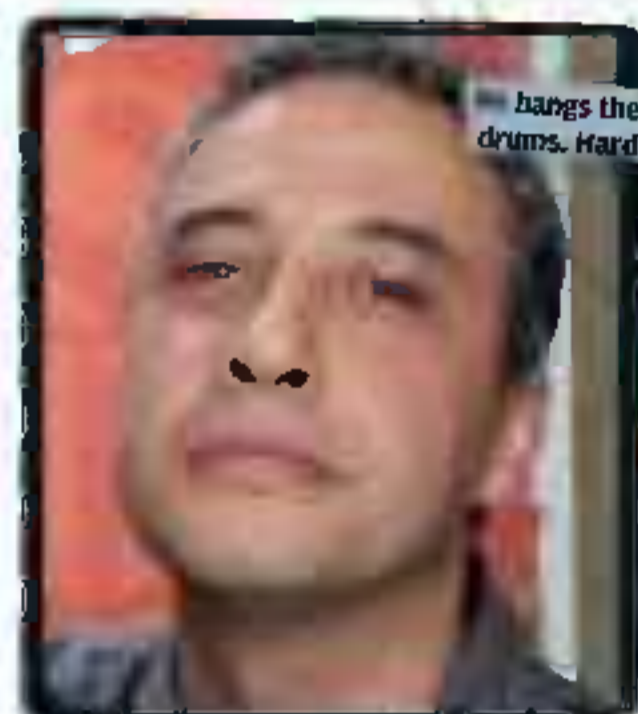
**What's uncool?**  
"People being rude to waiters. I cannot fathom it. If someone is rude to a waiter, you know there are like, bodies in their closet."

# MERRILL GARBUS

TUNE-YARDS

In the wake of 2011's many people complained that the spirit of musical protest was dead: where were our Braggs, our Clashes? But while we're still waiting for the next generation of righteous crusading punk, Tune-Yards, aka Merrill Garbus, seemed like a diamond in the rough - her second album, 'Whokill', bristled with rage and celebration, stridently lambasting political passivity and sexual stereotyping. And while Merrill clearly cares about being engaged and informed, her give-a-fuck attitude to body image - streaking her face with warpaint and terrifying all and sundry with her massive voice is amazingly refreshing. She's a total riot. **LS**

this warning about



hangs the drums. Hard

## RENI

THE STONE ROSES

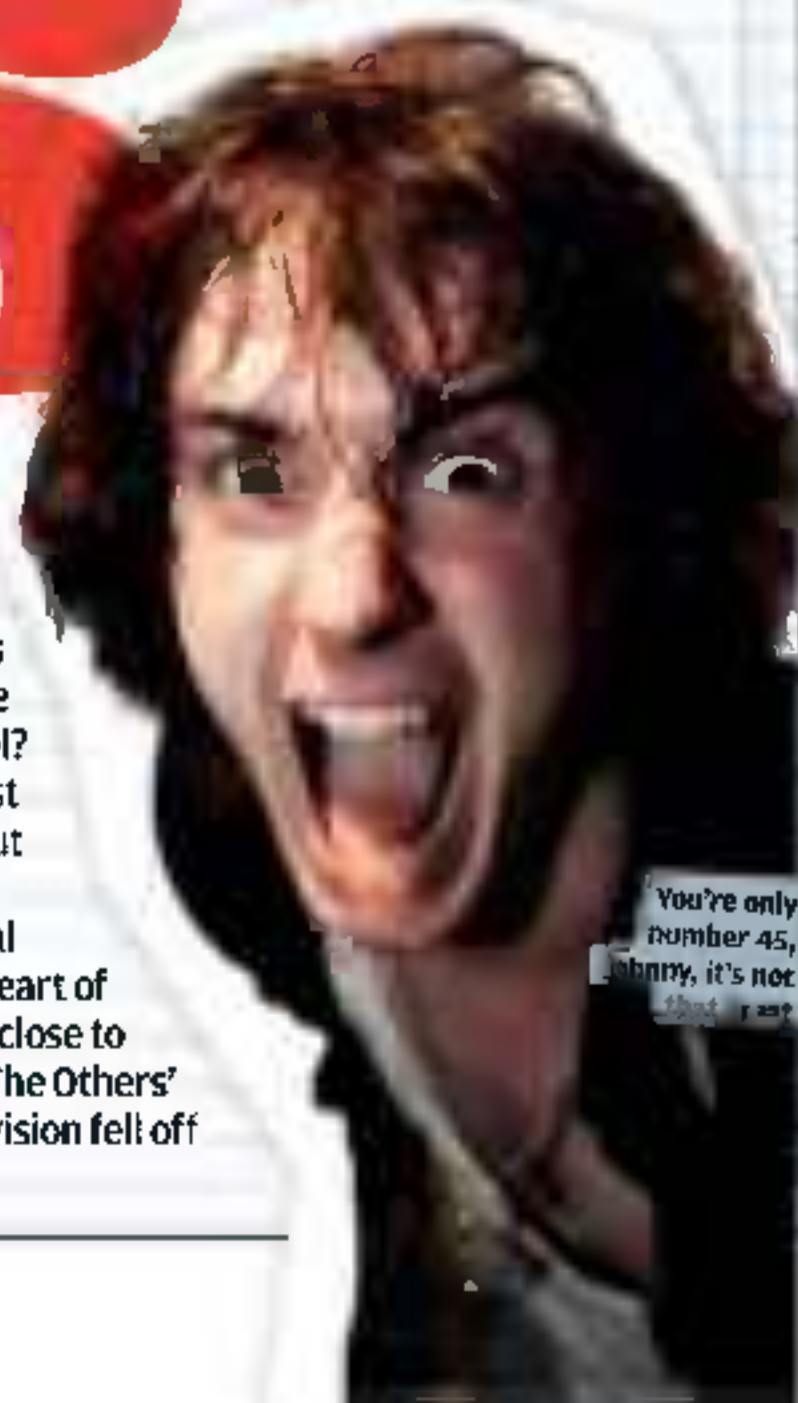
He's the Manchester legends' octo-limbed rhythmic bedrock, and one of the (very) few drummers who can lay serious claim to being a style icon (please, please, please wear the

bucket hat at Heaton Park) - but we have to admit that, until the seismic events of last month, we'd kinda forgotten about Reni. But that has made getting reacquainted with him all the more pleasurable: his self-deprecating wit made him the star of the Roses' laugh-a-minute press conference, but it was John Squire's knowing aside of "he's just being bashful; he's still got it" that really got us excited. On his day, Reni's the best in the world, and it just wouldn't - *couldn't* - be the Stone Roses without him. **BN**

# JOHNNY LLOYD

TRIBES

So apparently Johnny once got drunk with Juliette Lewis in Texas, and then woke up with a dog licking his face and the cosmos tattooed on his arm. Is this cool? Or is it just the start of a Bret Easton Ellis novel? It's misleading, mainly. His most admirable trait isn't hanging out with fashion criminals, it's the opposite: hanging with The Real People, being the big beating heart of a big-hearted band who are as close to their fans as anyone since the The Others' 853 Kamikaze Stage-Diving Division fell off its last raised platform. **GH**



You're only number 45, Johnny, it's not that easy

COOL LIST 2011



Bravo, Jordan: it takes a brave man to wear jeggings

## JORDAN GATESMITH

HOWLER

If rock'n'roll needs a leader then step forward Jordan Gatesmith, goofball frontman from Howler. Despite having a nifty way with a melody, Jordan's wicked because he simply looks like he wants to be in a band - all Chuck Taylors, ripped jeans, Ian McCulloch's hairdo from 1982 and the kind of swagger that's long-disappeared from this thing called garage rock. **MW**

# COOL LIST 2011



Toddla could barely contain his joy at his Cool List placing

## TODDLA T

If Dave Grohl is the nicest man in rock then Toddla must be the most gregarious dude in... dance? Dancehall? Hip-hop? House? Electro? Of course, Mr T isn't the only genre-splicer who's doing the rounds behind the world's decks right now, but he's pretty much the only one to combines the musical knowledge and passion of John Peel with the record collection of DJ Shadow and a style all of his own. The fast-talking Sheffield wonder is an endless flow of anecdote and musical ephemera in the flesh, the kind of guy you could happily waste weeks with down the pub. **TC**



The fifth B... the mouthy, ginger one

## NICKY WIRE

MANIC STREET PREACHERS

It's not easy being a 42-year-old firebrand. Anyone would forgive Nicky Wire for keeping his mouth shut now. But he just can't. A lot of what he says these days has a melancholy feel – he's convinced rock music is at a low ebb, and sees little hope for its future. But would you rather hear him banging the drum for Bombay Bicycle Club? No, Wire is a fighter, and that's the way we like it. He's one of pop's great theorists, and there are few things more enthralling than the Manics man in the throes of an excoriating rant. Long may he rage. **LL**



Bet there's a cat under that hat. Poor ill bastard

## BETHANY COSENTINO

BEST COAST

About every six months, someone says that slack is back. And Beth remains the scene's queen and style icon – and not just because everyone else is too lazy to mount a serious challenge to her position on the slacker throne/sofa. One thing that has been upgraded, though, is Beth's celebrity status. These days her speed dial includes Hollywood royalty like Drew Barrymore – director of the 'Our Deal' video this summer – as well as her local weed dealer. **MM**



## ORLANDO HIGGINBOTTOM

TOTALLY ENORMOUS EXTINCT DINOSAURS

In an era in which insouciant cool is celebrated, in which a chopped-up mop top represents the epitome of rock star chic, in which, essentially, most bands are duller than dishwater, it's nice to see a man dressed as a lizard. Or in the kind of feather headwear that would make David Furnish turn his head. TEED is unassuming in day-to-day mode, but when he's got his genius producer hat on, he's a whirling dervish of showmanship that 2011 would be beiger without. **TC**



39

## FRED MACPHERSON SPECTOR

**F**red has knocked the cool indicator back and forth in his time - he used to be in a contrived-cool hipster band (Les Incompétents), then an even more contrived-cool hipster band (Ox.Eagle.Lion.Man.). Now he's in a band he says aren't cool (Spector) but actually are - and with comments like "cut my wrists and White Stripes seven-inches would fall out", we're right behind him. **IF**

**NME:** What's the coolest thing you've done this year?  
"Getting lost in the desert after going to see Kanye

at Coachella. We ended up at a frat party where they were selling subsidised MDMA. Although I should say: MDMA's not cool."

**What's the coolest thing you did before you were in a band?**

"I paid Tinchy Stryder £100 to play a party. One member of the support, Captain Kick And The Cowboy Ramblers, was Tom Fiddle - now in Noah & The Whale - the other, Winston Marshall, is now in Mumford & Sons."

**What's the coolest thing you've ever worn?**

"Boots made of ostrich skin - not that I'm telling readers to kill ostriches. Or take MDMA."

38  
KING KRULE

Archie Marshall certainly stands out. How could he not, looking like he does? Sounding like he does? The south London newcomer is a walking musical encyclopedia, like Joe Strummer on speed but with the 'anything goes' mindset that makes Lee "Scratch" Perry, Damon Albarn and Shaun Ryder so individual. He's not quite at their level just yet, of course - he still lives with his mum, for a start - but he's a young Brit to truly get behind right now. **MW**

## BJORK

The dizzying nature of Björk's highbrow ideas can often obscure the fact that the lady herself is so much fun: charming, funny, pragmatic, wise and punk as fuck. Prior to 'Biophilia', she was encouraging rural Icelanders to launch their own sustainable businesses in order to stop big multinationals running their environment, and getting stuck into local politics rather than preaching from a stage. Technology, after all, is nothing if you haven't got the guts to back it up. **EM**



Björk won't fall asleep at the hairdressers ever again



Archie's lost hair dye seems to have disappeared

26  
FRANK  
TURNER

Coolness is general - the thought to be all about detachment, seeming not to care. Frank Turner is the opposite of all that: he's startlingly, disarmingly sincere - a shouter in an age of mumblers. This makes him an easy target for mockery, especially when he barks gloopy clichés like "Rock'n'roll will save us all" ('I Still Believe'). But his passionate folk songs have struck a chord with an increasingly huge audience (he's playing Wembley Arena next year), and you've got to respect a guy so at odds with the shrugging hipster ethos of the age. As he sings on 'Eulogy': "On the day I die/I'll say: 'At least I fucking tried'". Amen to that. **LL**



Questions about the Cool List? Talk to Frank

What's in  
Tyler's bag?  
His sandwiches,  
of course

## TYLER, THE CREATOR

ODD FUTURE

**W**hatever you say about Tyler, he sure walks it like he talks it. And he talks it filthy. He genuinely is the bored sex-fantast troller-deluxe he purports to be. Deranged. Not nice. Whether it's donning a wedding dress on the *NME* cover, or suggesting lesbian popsters Tegan And Sara suck "some hard dick" after they took offence to his lyrics, or delivering a VMA acceptance speech not so much expletive-laden as expletive-composed, he's carved a Chelsea smile across 2011 like no-one else. *GH*



He's the coolest  
simian since  
the one that  
went into space

## IAN BROWN

THE STONE POSES

There's a very good reason why, even as he nears his 50th birthday, Ian Brown remains a stalwart of lists like this one: not hitting middle age, not stints in prison, not even garish sportswear can dim King Monkey's natural cool. He has never followed a trend in his life, and is one of the few musicians left who's not afraid to speak his political and social beliefs. He's become – and no-one could have predicted this – a true national treasure. Oh, and did we mention that he's also gone and reformed The Stone fucking Roses? Well, we have now. *BN*



Hayden retained  
his cool, despite  
bad leg

## HAYDEN THORPE

WILD BEASTS

Find us a pair of less likely bedfellows than Wild Beasts' eunuch-voiced frontman and drag-queen-voiced Lady Gaga. While the Beasts were one of our most forward-looking bands, Hayden's silky remix of Gaga's brash "You & I" showed a desire to keep wriggling away from preconceived ideas about the band, underlined by Hayden telling us that they were glad they weren't up for a Mercury for a second time. This man will never submit to being fossilised in some rockist canon – may there be many more of his sort. *LS*

## COOL: PLOTTER

IT TENDS TO FLUCTUATE

**APR 30**  
DRESS UP TIME  
Appears on the cover  
of *NME*. In a dress.

**AUG 29**  
THE KANYE EMBRACE  
Wins a VMA for Best New Artist. Despite being practically unheralded in the mainstream, beats off the likes of Kreezyahawn, Wiz Khalifa and Foster The People, then collapses into Kanye's arms.

**AUG 27**  
READING:  
SMASHED  
Slays Reading with Odd Future. Plays the band's biggest UK festival gig to raucous reception with his foot in a cast.

**OCT 30**  
MORE SCUFFLES  
More controversy as Odd Future bandmate Left Brain is accused of assaulting a photographer at a show in New Orleans. Amy Harris slaps Vyron Turner swatted her on the head and knocked the lens off of her camera.

**MAY 16**  
HOMOPHOBIA ROW  
Feud begins with Tegan And Sara when the Canadian twinks write an open letter to him arguing that his misogyny and use of the word "faggot" is not actually a LOL at all.

**FEB 25**  
BIEB'N'GREET  
Meets Justin Bieber. The Biebermeister declares himself "a fan" of "yonkers", and the pair pose for a photo together.

# 32

## MILES KANE

For a start, Miles is here because he keeps his cool when faced with endless questions/jokes/jibes about being 'Alex Turner's lapdog'. And they're definitely going to keep on coming, sorry, la'. But more importantly, just look at the list of other people who hold his guitar-playing, style and swagger (in the lad-rock, rather than hip-hop sense) in such high regard: Noel, Liam, Kasabian, most stadium-smashing Brit indie bands. If 2012 proves to be the year where he's finally officially anointed as the fifth Monkey, expect his cool to skyrocket even further in next year's list. **RM**



## A\$AP ROCKY

So much rap pedigree in his bones that his real name is Rakim, self-professed "pretty motherfucker" Rocky has a knack for looking good that befits a former fashion

student. With Drake as his mentor, and a toe in the so-hot-right-now swag-heavy mumble-rap movement epitomised by Lil B and Tyler, everyone's desperate to get a piece of the adoptive New Yorker. But even in the centre of the frenzy, he remains clear-eyed enough to find the humour in it. One time, a record exec phoned him up asking for a meeting. Rocky accepted, on condition that he take him shopping first. Trip to Barney's over, he skipped out on the meeting. Smooth. **GH**

# 20

## KANYE WEST

The thing about this apparently 'shameless egotist' (thanks, internet trolls) is that musically he's quite the opposite. His last two albums were collaborative in the best sense; here we saw someone who can allow the spotlight to shine on others. 'My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy' had plenty of those moments ('Monster', 'Runaway', 'All Of The Lights' made even Fergie look good), while 'Watch The Throne' was another genius team-up, playing Kanye's boy-about-town against Jay-Z's man-in-midlife contemplation to brilliant effect. **PE**



## KURT VILE

**R**oaming around like a survivor from another era, Kurt's fourth album, 'Smoke Ring For My Halo', confirmed him as an era-defining, sad-eyed troubadour, searching for meaning and companionship in the lonely ice-scapes of rock'n'roll. With hair that looks like it has been lifted from the crown of Otto the bus driver and a head full of bittersweet, stoned songs about life on the road, his cool is timeless - he fits into the drifter role like a modern day Hank Williams or James Taylor. **PE**

**NME:** What's the coolest thing you did before you were a rock star?  
"I got my wife pregnant. It was a big crazy surprise to put you in your place."  
**What's the coolest thing you've ever worn?**  
"My Blues Control T-shirt. They're my friend's band. The T-shirt is a photo of them in this car. It's a couple. Lea and Russ, and she's really cool in sunglasses and Russ, I think he's a pig!"  
**Who would be top of your personal Cool List?**  
"Richard Hell, J Mascis, Flannery O'Connor and Twin Peaks."  
**What's the coolest word in the English language?**  
"She ~~could~~ defines somebody who's not cool at all, a vacant shell. Somebody who, on all levels, is not cool."

COOL LIST 2011

Fact: Kurt's topped the List in 1970

# HAD IT, LOST IT

### GARLOW

Without the mad ginger bloke shouting and jumping off the railings, we're just not having it.

### DARYL DENZ

Number 10 in the list last year, you say? Sorry, who's this bloke?

### CHRIS ADDISON

From *The Thick Of It* to insurance ads and a side spot on *Mock The Week* in 12 disastrous months.

### MIA

Wanted to give tea and Mars bars to London looters. *Vive la revolution...*

TOM DIXON, DAN DENNISON, RICHARD JOHNSON, PETER VAN HATTEN, GETTY, MATT SALACUSE

# COOL LIST 2011

Tom is 28 in the Cool List, but Top 10 in the finest jawlines in rock



## TOM COHEN SCUM

**Y**oung Tom may have an unseemly taste in flares and fillies, but as the gloomy lynchpin of SCUM, he's reclaiming the sceptre of darkness from unworthy goth torchbearers White Lies and Editors. While many are quick to use Tom's youth against him, describing his shtick as a shlocky Nick Cave impersonation, there's a unfuckwithability to his act that's all his own. SCUM and Tom are sticking two fingers up at those with their noses in the history books, and blazing a new trail. **LS**

**NME:** What's the secret to being cool?

"Everyone should wear a blazer. If you're wearing a two-button blazer, then do up the top button. If it's a three-button blazer you only do up the middle button. Never do up the bottom button."

**What's the coolest thing you've ever worn?**

"An 18th-century Spanish bull-fighting jacket, which was given to me for the first ever photoshoot we did. But it got taken back off me - apparently, the owner saw the photo and got really angry. There was some sort of back story about him living with a transvestite."

**What's the coolest thing you've ever touched?**

"I touched an alpaca in New York. It was cool."

Drake perfects his Lana Del Rey impression



## DRAKE

Despite a flurry of high profile hook-ups with the likes of Rihanna and Nicki Minaj, Drake has never got lost in the rap game. With a whip-smart rebelliousness, he jettisoned the usual tropes and instead exposed the beating heart beneath the bling bravado. His new album 'Take Care' is a emo-hop masterclass of how he's been dealing with fame - or rather how he hasn't been dealing with it. It snarls as much as it weeps, leaving a trail of broken hearts and bruised egos in its wake. That he did it while wearing the most amazing-slash-ridiculous jumpers was perhaps the coolest aspect of all. **PE**

# 26

## PJ HARVEY

Polly Harvey's cool is so innate she could star in a detergent advert and still come across as the most curious musical force in the UK - fitting, considering she managed to keep that white frock stain-free throughout the whole of 2011 (she looked pretty nifty in black too). Making arguably the finest album of 2011 in 'Let England Shake' is a cool enough thing to do in one year, but the way that she's never embraced a rock cliché in her life yet still surpasses any guitar-toting long-hair in terms of understated enigma seals her place. **JF**



It's cool, but she doesn't harp on about it



The murder on Zidane's floor joke was lost on Christopher

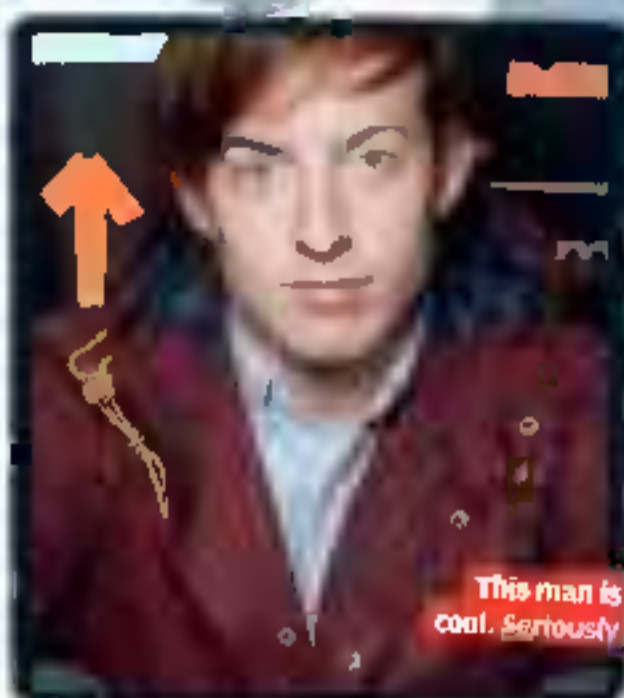
## CHRISTOPHER OWENS GIRLS

Firstly, being a survivor is pretty cool. Christopher Owens has survived both a childhood cut short by an involvement in the Children Of God cult and an adulthood addled by drugs. Secondly, this year he's been in the unique position of making an album with Girls ('Father, Son, Holy Ghost') that references classic rock of yore (Lennon, Peter Green) and yet has said, with no irony, that he would have liked Justin Bieber and Beyoncé to take the vocals. He's also unashamedly declared his love for a clutch of tween superstars (Bieber, Miley, Dakota Fanning) over Twitter. It's his comfortable-in-his-own-skin confidence which makes him so cool. **PE**

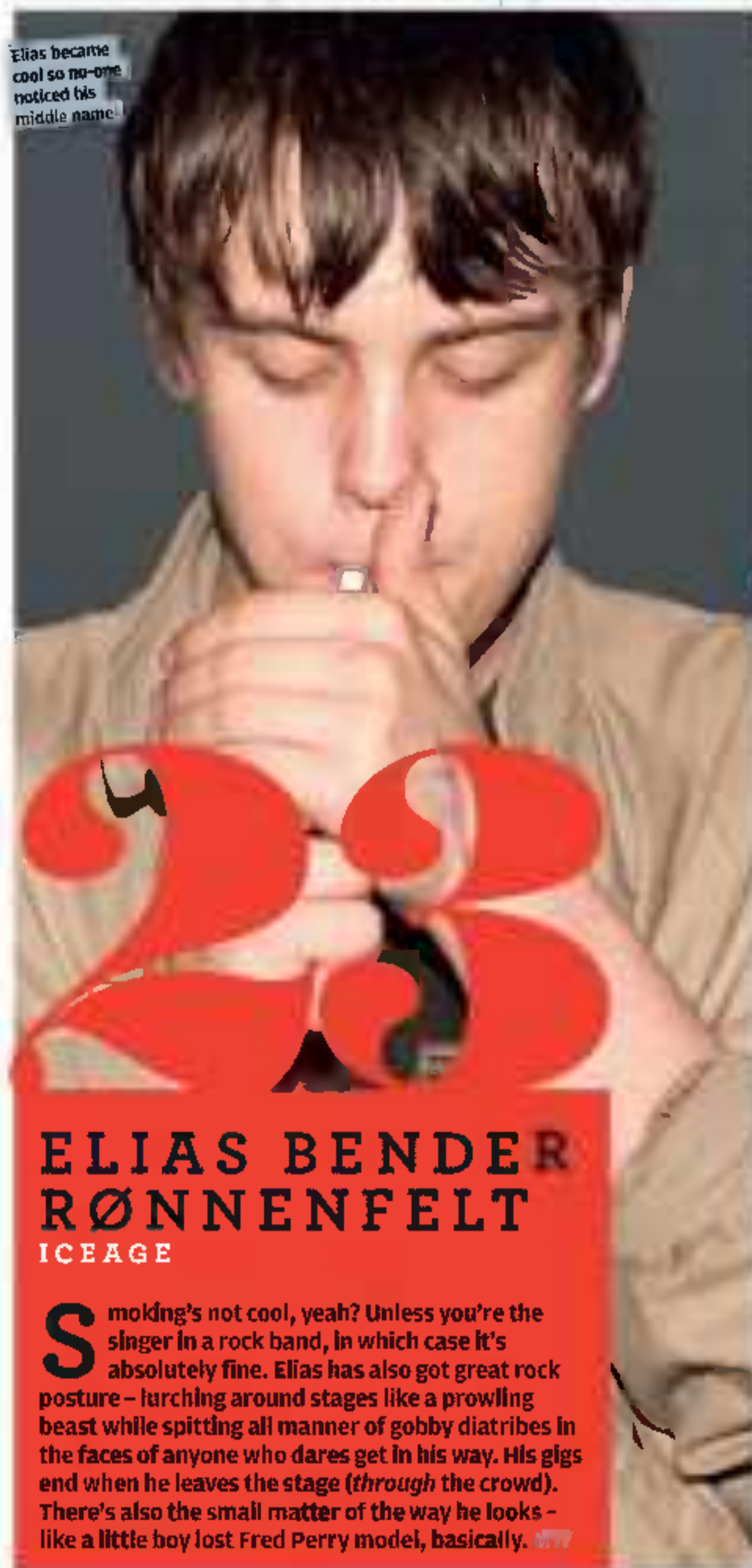
# JACK STEADMAN

BOMBAY BICYCLE CLUB

Jack may look like he spends his days beating the quizzlestick in his bedroom, but there's a flintiness at his core that's moulded him into one of the most iron-willed new British rock stars out there. Jack's an apostle of his generation's unshowy take on DIY: he spends a lot of time slagging things off for being 'too Hoxton', revising his photoshoots or videos if they come out 'too fake', denouncing Alex Turner's 'bullshit' statements and generally setting his moral compass to 'Next Gen Cribbs'. **GH**



Elias became cool so no-one noticed his middle name.



## ELIAS BENDER RØNNENFELT

ICE AGE

**S**moking's not cool, yeah? Unless you're the singer in a rock band, in which case it's absolutely fine. Elias has also got great rock posture – lurching around stages like a prowling beast while spitting all manner of gobby diatribes in the faces of anyone who dares get in his way. His gigs end when he leaves the stage (through the crowd). There's also the small matter of the way he looks – like a little boy lost Fred Perry model, basically. **WV**

COOL LIST 2011

Fred: nervous doing post...



### FREDDIE'S FIVE COOLEST MOMENTS OF 2011:

1 **Reading and Leeds**

"We were sitting in a press area in Japan. It was only a quick hello, but he knows he's the king."

2 **Las Vegas**

"Reading was the first festival I ever went to, so playing was the cool highlight of my summer."

3 **Bowery Ballroom**

"Justin and I found a place where you can play with lion

cubs for 50 cents a second."

4 **New York**

"This was our first gig in America. Before we went on, Debbie Harry came into the dressing room to wish us luck."

5 **Home**

"They pick you up from your hotel in a speedboat, and they take you deep sea fishing."

## FREDDIE COWAN

THE VACCINES

**J**ustin Young may be the creative force in The Vaccines, but he's not the one who can pull off wearing white trousers and *not* look like he's walked out of a poster advert for a department store own brand aftershave from 1993. Freddie's also the brother of one of The Horrors (and filled in for Joshua Hayward when he took his exams a few years back), the guy who compiles the band's psych-y compilation CDs to play to their fans before shows, shreds guitar quicker than a hummingbird's wing flapping and who garners so much fan love there's a blog named 'Fuck Yeah! Freddie Cowan' set up in his honour. **JF**

# COOL LIST 2011

Joe tends to lose at golf, but it might be his choice of tools



## JOE MOUNT

METRONOMY

**W**e haven't exactly been short of coastal sounds over the past couple of years, but Joe Mount proved that you can turn sand into gold rather than some shit sepia memory with Metronomy's third album, 'The English Riviera'. His pop chops led him to work with Girls Aloud's Nicola Roberts on her solo album, which he mastered with precisely the same nonchalant aplomb. And, to boot, he's the kind of dude that you could easily go for a pint with - or a gaudy cocktail if we're being all 'English Riviera' about it. **LS**

**NME: What's the secret to being cool?**

"It's brushing your teeth, doing your homework and wearing great clothes. Depending on how far up the list I am I might tell you which clothes as well."

**What's the coolest thing you did before Metronomy?**

"I only got two minor faults on my driving test - passed first time!"

**What's the coolest thing you've ever worn?**

"I've worn literally the same stuff - well, not literally - since I was about 15: white trainers and jeans."

**Who'd be on your own personal cool list?**

"Let's say David Attenborough, shall we?"

**What's the coolest thing you've ever touched?**

"Probably girls, I think."

## FLORENCE WELCH

What makes Florence cool isn't the way she struts down Chanel catwalks with Karl Lagerfeld. It isn't the magazine covers and designer frocks. These are the least cool things about her.

It's more the fact that she's managed to make an epic success out of something as uncool as a pallid, redheaded posh girl singing power ballads while dressed as a kind of Bloomsbury Boudica.

It's the way she brings some unashamed vibrancy, some over the top guts into mainstream pop. And it is, at the end of the day, that voice. **EM**

Florence had bad dandruff, but then she shook it out

## ORLANDO WEEKS

THE MACCABEES

Casually flipping decades of accepted wisdom on its head, Orlando Weeks makes being nice cool. Songs about the importance of friends and family, of nurturing and love are not the normal fodder of indie rock, but they are a central part of what makes The Maccabees so beloved. Orlando's humbly intense onstage persona is every bit the way he is in person, brimming with a genuinely inspiring sort of warm, everyday decency that's cooler than cold. **EM**

**NME: What's the coolest thing you've worn?**

"I don't know, but these squeaky trainers are the least cool thing. The only way you can stop them from squeaking is to hold your feet so the tongues don't move at all."

**Who would be top of your personal cool list?**

"David Attenborough. The things he's done are amazing, like, as a young father taking risks like going off to these wild places for his first programme, Zoo Quest. David Attenborough must be cool, because how



'Likes Struts?'  
'Large Schlomp?'  
Answers on postcards, please

often do you get two brothers, and one is a film director and one's a geologist, and the geologist is the cooler of the two?"

**What's the coolest word?**

"My friend Ed loves the word 'plank'. It might not be that cool, really, but it is very satisfying to say."



Ah, Tizer. Tastes like shit, but you can pretend you're drinking rabbits' blood

## CHARLIE FINK NOAH & THE WHALE

**R**emember when Charlie Fink boo-hoo'd his way through a break-up, his acoustic guitar seldom leaving his side? Well, this year he ditched his cloying ways and re-emerged a gold-plated rock star, sporting dapper suits'n'braces, throwing shapes onstage and releasing a good ol' fashioned stadium rock beast with 'Last Night On Earth'. Anyone who spotted him on the beaches of Ibiza this summer, strutting around in his tailored clobber and drawing perplexed glances from confused clubbers, knew a mind-boggling transformation had occurred... **BH**

**NME:** What's the secret to being cool?  
"The Peter O'Toole interview [on *Letterman* in 1995] when he arrives riding a camel and

smoking a cigarette, and then jumps off the camel and gives it a beer. I think that's as close to cool as you can get."  
**What's the coolest thing you did before you were a rock star?**  
"I drove across America back when I was a teenager, which definitely felt like a pretty cool thing to do at the time. Me and two of my friends took an acoustic guitar and a banjo and we just open mic'd around the country. We got a mixed reception, I'd say. Once, we were on after a guy who did a dramatic recital of the first verse of *The Iliad*. It was a hard act to follow."  
**What's the coolest thing you've ever touched?**  
"This is pretty undeniably cool: in San Francisco, there's this rock archive place, and they have these handwritten lyrics of Jimi Hendrix's on napkins. I touched one of those. I thought about stealing one, but sadly I was being watched. And theft isn't cool."

## JANELLE MONAE

A mind like an encyclopedia, a peerless Glastonbury performance which brought up the spirit of James Brown kicking it with The JB's, the strictest clothing policy since The White Stripes (in her case, black and white) and an appearance at the White House which lead to Obama hollering requests for his favourite tune ('Tightrope' - of course). After the brilliant and expansive 'The ArchAndroid' it feels like she can do anything - and there's nowt more cool than the fever of expectation. **PE**



Pay attention, Alex Turner: that's a quilt



There's enough garlic in that 'tache to kill a horse

## GASPARD AUGE JUSTICE

It goes without saying that Ed Banger's lankiest, hairiest, most leather-clad, Gitane-puffing *flâneurs* define effortless cool, but which one is cooler? The one that looks like Lemmy, of course. Props for the two albums, props for combining electronic music with both Motörhead and Hawkwind, and props for the unfailing self-belief. No-one in the world believes in these two as rock stars more than they do, which is half of what it takes to be one, really. **TC**

## IF ONLY THEY ROCKED

**KAYO BALCITELL**  
The coolest footballer since Cantona - mean, moody, fond of indoor firework displays.

the best comedy since *The Inbetweeners* would strap on a Strat.

**WOD FROM FRESH MEAT**  
The devil-may-care attitude and Pauline-from-The Selecter-style makes us wish the best character in

**PROFESSOR ERIC COX**  
Used to rock in D:Ream, now rocking physics even harder.

**RICHARD AYOADE**  
After *Submarine*, the British Wes Anderson?

"Quiff you  
don't know  
me by now..."



## ALEX TURNER

ARCTIC MONKEYS

**T**he Elvis quiff. The Strummer strut. The motorcycle madness. What the fuck has happened to the boy Turner in 2011? He's become a badass, that's what. A total reinvention, for sure, but that's what you want from rock stars, isn't it? The ability to totally shock and surprise while looking like you couldn't give two shits about what people might think about you. He's got it in spades. **MW**

**NME:** Who's coolest out of you and Helders?  
"Helders."  
He said you [see right].  
"There you go, that tells you all you need to

know about us, doesn't it? That's interesting. I thought he would have said him! Do you know what, though? I think Cookie's my favourite at the minute. Definitely, attire-wise. I mean, look at what he's got going on!"  
He hasn't got a quiff, though. Tell us how to make the perfect quiff.  
"No, I'm not qualified enough yet! By the way, what position am I?"  
You'll find out when you buy the mag.  
"Has Helders been in it before? He has? Well, I fucking topped it, mate! Mind you, topped and then dropped, never to be seen again... until now."

"One likes to  
chill with a glass  
of white and  
some Maiden"



## LAURA MARLING

She's lost some of that shieldmaiden-of-folk froideur, but that's why Laura Marling is still a very cool prospect in 2011. 'A Creature I Don't Know' was a bolshy icebreaker that flaunted funny, scary and raunchy sides we'd never imagined. Laura's brave willingness to baffle her adoring fanbase and go her own way just makes us fawn haplessly over her even more. **EM**

## DAVE GROHL

FOO FIGHTERS

Always cool, in 2011 Dave Grohl got even more so, when Foo Fighters pitched up to a protest by the gay-hating Westboro Baptist Church and blasted out a lurid hymn to gay sex. Right-on and funny with it? Truly cool. **LL**

Dave passes  
on the credit  
to his dentist



Katy B  
wearing Basil  
Brush is not cool

## KATY B

A true uniter of the tribes, Katy Brien dragged dubstep into the mainstream this year, giving us some of the biggest bangers of 2011. She's so obviously cooler, and better connected than you, that she should be intimidating, but she's so down to earth, you just want to be her mate. **NME** won't get ready to go out on a Friday night to anything else, frankly. **EM**

**NME:** What's the coolest thing you've done this year?

"We got a private jet from Montreux Jazz Festival to Ibiza. They don't even tell you to put your seatbelt on or anything!"

**What's the coolest thing you've ever worn?**

"Probably my witch's hat at our Halloween show. I had to buy it along with this sexy dress thing."

# NOEL GALLAGHER

Talk about grace under pressure: Noel spent all year being trolled by his estranged younger brother, yet managed to maintain a dignified front by allowing his music to do the talking – yet he still came out with the quotes of the year. While there seems a sense of inevitability about an Oasis reunion in the not too distant future, for the immediate present, unencumbered by notions of songwriting ‘democracy’, Noel is making his best music in years. Next year’s Amorphous Androgynous collaboration could go either way, but as he settles into the role of elder statesman, The Chief is keeping things interesting. **BN**



# ELLERY ROBERTS

What's Ellery Roberts rebelling ag:inst? Well, whaddya got? WU LYF's uncompromising frontman is a horseman of the apocalypse for complacent indie musicians everywhere, a fiercely intelligent firebrand who studies at the Open University in his downtime and has one of the year's best debut albums under his belt. But don't call him 'cool'. "Cool is meaningless," he tells us. "I think believing in what you do is 'cool'. But I wouldn't call it that. I'd say it was respectable." Cool! **BN**



## NOEL'S NUGGETS OF COOL

"Angry Birds is strangely addictive. There's nothing like giving a pig a black eye."

"Ewan McGregor was my neighbour he came round my house the night he got the part of Obi-Wan Kenobi [in Star Wars Episode I: The Phantom Menace]. I just happened to have two of the Lightsaber toys. His first Jedi training session was with your truly in my back garden at eight in the morning."

"The way to a man's heart is a box of Yorkshire..."

"Chart positions are for people with manbags who only get to work at 11am because they've been at a digital meeting."

"My four-year-old named our cat Boots. Not after the chemist, obviously. Although, if he'd named him Superdrug, that would've been fucking brilliant."

"I hate it when older people say, 'Oh, I've heard it all before.' Rock'n'roll is only the retelling of a story for a new generation. And someone has to retell the story for fucking 15-year-olds."



# MATT HELDERS

## ARCTIC MONKEYS

The straightest-talking, best-acting Monkey has had a seismic 2011. From hanging with Diddy to shooting that video, Helders is still the heart and soul of the band – swerving the retro cool shtick embodied by the other three for a way more futuristic get-up. He's got a fade hairdo, for fuck's sake. Plus, he's the only man in indie able to rock a motorcycle helmet and rollerblades. **MW**

**NME:** Who's cooler out of you and Alex?

"Well, let me think. You know what, we'll probably say each other. He's probably higher than me, I'd say. But it's hard to say. Maybe you haven't done it that way. Everybody loves an underdog, don't they? I've had the ['Suck It And See'] video, he's had the hair. Oh, I can't choose." You've both been in it before too...

"We have. As I said, I'm the underdog but the video would have done me some favours

hopefully. I'll be honest with you – I'm guessing I haven't won it because you'd have probably wanted me for a cover shoot, right?"

Er... right.

"Right. Well, I'm just happy to be in it. But I think Alex will probably be higher than me. He's just a cool guy, isn't he?" What's the coolest thing you've done today?

"Eat a bap, I think."

And the coolest thing you've done this year?

"Probably that T-shirt with the rollerblades [the album sleeve shot and tour merch T-shirt of Helders dressed up in all kinds of weird stuff]. When we were in London at this rehearsal studio, I went in this cupboard and I were like, 'Fuck! Look at all these props!' So I came back out in the helmet and rollerblades. We decided that should have been the album cover but it was too late. We always do that and end up regretting it. It's only the first album cover we probably stand by."

COOL LIST 2011

## COOL LIST 2011

### THEO HUTCHCRAFT

#### HURTS

Europe is his playground. He's got the private jet, army of obsessive fans, celebrity girlfriend (Alexa Chung, yonked from the arm of Alex Turner) - and he does it all without messing up a single hair. What saves him from smugness, though, is the humour with which he greets his good fortune. Theo recognises the absurdity, and his Twitter feed is therefore a mine of weirdly poetic *bon mots* ("woke up in Zagreb with a heart like a bag of snakes"). Total dude. **LL**

### RHYS WEBB

#### THE HORRORS

Faris may be the most natural frontman of his generation and Josh Hayward the architect of The Horrors' incendiary sound, but it's Rhys who has always exuded the most cool. From his days as organ grinder Spider Webb through to new incarnation as a bass-wielding Hedi Slimane model circa 2004, Rhys' sartorial transformation over the past years has been a pretty apt metaphor for the rebirth of The Horrors themselves. For the cheekbones and fringe alone he deserves to be here, never mind that he's the coolest member of Britain's coolest band. **FW**

## THE FOOL LIST

#### THE CLOWN POSSE

Last year they were here for bigging up domestic violence, this year it's for the collab that killed Jack White's kudos.

#### RICKY GERTAIS

Mong-gate: too far. *Life's Too Short*: too shit. Sort it out, Brent.

#### THE SHEEP

Not bringing ginger back, just bringing back hellish gap year acousto-horror.

#### MICHAEL PEDICURE

Sacked from MCR for stealing from the tourbus. Bet he got some cracking leather kecks off Gerard.



### LANA DEL REY

Close your eyes and count to five. While you did that, 127 people have remixed Lana Del Rey's 'Video Games'. If you count the adulation of knob-twiddlers as a marker of respect, LDR would be Number One. Cynics might note that there are several kinds of knob-twiddlers the easy-on-the-eye singer attracts, but that would be doing a sexist injustice to 2011's most captivating prospect, an enigmatic bundle of New York talent who has managed to lasso Generation YouTube wholeheartedly with a beguiling mix of faded Hollywood glamour, Lynchian aesthetics and Stevie Nicks vocals. **TC**



## TOM MEIGHAN SERGE PIZZORNO

KASABIAN

**T**hese childhood mates don't have so much a rock'n'roll gang as a connection that borders on the telepathic. Which, if you're Serge, comes in useful when you're delving into the mind of British rock's most complex frontman. Both have their own individual style and mannerisms - as they're both keen to point out, both are cool in their own way. But who's cooler? We reckon Serge. Marginally. But we went straight to source for their take on the matter... **RM**

**NME:** So lads, who's the coolest out of the two of you?

**Serge:** "That's an impossible question, man. You've put me in a right situation here."

**Tom:** "Oh, it's definitely me! Look, Serge is probably a better, bigger man - he's definitely more gangly than me. And he'd look better in a wig. But I'm cooler."

**Serge:** "I'll take that."

**Who else do you think should be high up the Cool List this year?**

**Serge:** "(Without a moment's hesitation) Tom. He's got to be Number One this year."

**Tom:** "The Kills. They're cool, always have been."

**But how would you feel if Tom wasn't Number One?**

**Serge:** "Of course, I know it's never going to happen. It's just one of those things."

**So what specifically is that cool about Tom?**

**Serge:** "Tom doesn't give a fuck about being anything other than himself, and I don't think there's anything cooler than that. You can try to find out by reading a book, studying the path, but he can't do any of that, he just is and

that's what makes him cooler than anyone I've ever met."

**Same question to you, Tom - what's cool about Serge?**

**Tom:** "His feet. I've mentioned this before in *NME*, he's got size fucking 12 or 13 feet - like a basketball player."

**What's uncool about the pair of you?**

**Serge:** "His underwear."

**Tom:** "He has sugar in his tea."

**Who's got the coolest fashion sense?**

**Tom:** "We're both as good as each other, really. I know it's a cheesy thing to say, but it really is true."

**Serge:** "I was looking through old photos last night, and we used to look like right little rebels: proper grungey, baggy jeans, different hair. I looked incredible, man. Still do."

**And who's got the coolest music taste?**

**Tom:** "I'm taking this one. What do I dig that Serge doesn't? I listen to a lot of John Williams' music - I don't think Serge really listens to John Williams. I mean, our music tastes aren't too dissimilar."

**You've known each other since you were 12 years old.**

**Were you both cool when you were at school?**

**Serge:** "I wasn't, I sort of stayed in the shadows. I only really came out of my shell when I left. Whereas Tom... everyone at school fucking knew who Tom was."

**Tom:** "When we were growing up I didn't think about us being cool. I don't think anyone thought we were cool, they probably didn't think anything of us at all. At the end of the day, you can only be as cool as you can be, can't you?"



At last they crack... we knew 'Velociraptor' was a joke really

# HONOR TITUS

CEREBRAL BALLZY

In an age dominated by the no-try arty types of his native Brooklyn, Honor Titus, singer with New York split-punk rockers Cerebral Ballzy, is the middle finger of conscientious objection to underachievement. Sex, drugs, parties, inspirational status as the iconic punk rock band: he wants it all, he's not afraid to talk about how much he wants it, and he's gutsy enough to drive himself to get it. If anyone has flung themselves into the cool pile as much by dint of talking endlessly about how cool they and their band are, it's him. On one level, he's the most totally committed pizza-levin' hard-brawling jig-a-jiggling punk rock party-pants since Andrew WK stopped headbutting mirrors. But scratch a bit, and it's obvious there's also something more considered here, a feline intelligence underneath all the tales of fivesomes and pool hall bust-ups.

We join him backstage at London's Roundhouse on a wet Wednesday night. The dressing room here are tiny, with a bathroom bolted on, so small you couldn't fit a bath in there. It is into one of these that singer Honor Titus is bundling a raven-haired girl. The door locks. There is the really-not-terribly-far-off 'clink' of a bolt buckle hitting the floor.

Half an hour before, Ballzy played a show to a roomful of King Blues fans who didn't seem to give a flying fuck about their pissy snot-punk, to the extent that halfway in bassist Melvin Honore threw a glass bottle of lager into the arena with a cry of "Wake the fuck up!" Someone – no-one's saying who – put a foot through a speaker cone. Consequently, the venue's issued a 'damage report' and the Ballzy manager's face is loaded with the sort of pat upon gloom that can only come from handling the finances of a ten-legged rule-breaking machine. Honor seemed to be trying out light hypnosis on the crowd as he romped gangly-legged across the stage: "You seem to know

how to party," he'd say... "You guys are fucking waaay-yald...", half a combative smirk, half an attempt at party-starting autosuggestion.

"I was a total nerd," he tells us. "I was scrawny as fuck. I had hi-waters, which is when your pants are too high around the ankles. I didn't get picked on or nothing. But I just... locked out. I didn't engage." He qualifies: "Girls still used to think I was cute."

"My mystique was that I was reading. Reading Pokemon or reading shitty comic books or something. I was a geek, and I'm still a geek. I've never changed. I'm still the same, dude.

Boom... I just found ways to channel my passions into the real world. To make them my life. Luckily I had a growth spurt, and that helped a lot too. I dunno. It worked out." He grins a wicked little grin. "And I've got great taste too, and that helps."

It's the tang of nerves clashing with his self-imposed bravado that makes him so likeable, and prevents him from coming across as a mere booger-eating fartface. To play as dumb as Honor, you've got to be pretty smart, and to be as balls-out as he is, there's got to be some nugget of insecurity pushing you forward.

Not that he's exactly countenancing any chinks in the armour. "Do I feel I'm on the crest of a wave right now? A wave isn't the right word, 'cos waves come down. We're a rocket-fuelled ramp. We're like Tony Hawk on a hoverboard off like a 20ft megaramp. It's not coming down dude."

When will it all end? "Probably when we have a few chart-topping gingles and we do too many drugs when we're 53 and then succumb."

To what? "Liver failure. Heart failure..." Melvin chips in: "Gout." Syphilis? "Nah, man! What're you saying?" They all chant Notorious BIG: "I got the clean-est, mean-est, pen-is", and collapse into hopeless giggles. GH

## "HE'D EAT SNOT ON STAGE"

### HONOR'S FIVE ICONS OF COOL

#### Stiv Bators, The Dead Boys

"He was a real rocker who was into all kinds of things, but he was also a real gentleman. When he was on stage, he was the coolest, most confident."

#### Ozzy Osbourne

"He was a real rocker who was into all kinds of things, but he was also a real gentleman. When he was on stage, he was the coolest, most confident."

#### Johnny Marr

"He was a real rocker who was into all kinds of things, but he was also a real gentleman. When he was on stage, he was the coolest, most confident."

#### Steve Albini, Big Black/Shellac

"He was a real rocker who was into all kinds of things, but he was also a real gentleman. When he was on stage, he was the coolest, most confident."

#### Honor Titus

"He was a real rocker who was into all kinds of things, but he was also a real gentleman. When he was on stage, he was the coolest, most confident."

Honor is wearing the entire 'Be A Punk' dress-up kit, only £34.99 (rain or shine).

## JARVIS COCKER

PULP

**I**t's a delight to watch born outsiders, freaks of nature and spooky sickos of the likes of Nick Cave or Iggy Pop wrestling with the role of the elder statesman, reshaping it and twisting it to their own weird purposes. Age will not weary them, but it will be weirded by them.

Master of this tricky dance is Jarvis Cocker. To look at this avuncular, tweedy figure, like someone who went down to the book stacks of Sheffield Hallam library to do some research on a Philip Larkin essay sometime in the early '70s, took a wrong turn and never came back, you'd think Radio 4, collecting strange memorabilia, perhaps a fondness for real ale. You wouldn't imagine him as the pale and frightening wraith who whispered dark secrets of incest, adultery and class hatred in the ears of Britpop. But though he's now been published by Faber & Faber (lyrics collection *Mother, Brother,*

*Lover* was out this year), Jarvis will always needle against the comfy and the established.

From the first show of the Pulp reunion at Primavera festival, he was at it again, siding with the Spanish protestors against budget cuts in Barcelona. At T In The Park, he wiped his arse with the final *News Of The World*, after the tabloid succumbed to the phone-hacking scandal, saying "that's the only thing that piece of shit's been good for in 168 years." His excitement at being let loose to wiggle his arse in the face of popular culture once more was infectious, and the Pulp reunion shows were some of the summer's highlights, reminding everyone what a jubilant, exhilarating live band Pulp were. And still, no-one, no-one moves like him; empires crumble at one crook of that bony finger. Sir, we salute you, even if we'd never accept a Werther's Original from you. **EM**

Pipes, breed,  
Cape...  
is angling  
for a job on  
entryfile



# AZEALIA BANKS

SHE'S GOT THE MOST EXCITING SONG IN THE WORLD, THE FILTHIEST MOUTH IN THE WORLD, AND THE FIERCEST ATTITUDE IN THE WORLD. HERE ARE 10 REASONS WHY SHE'S THE COOLEST PERSON IN THE WORLD

**H**as Azealia Banks shaken up your world yet? She's about to. Her signature, the MIA-beating, cuss-tastic '212', is the most exciting three minutes and 30 seconds we've heard in 2011, bursting with youthful rebellion and a can-do, fuck-you attitude, and the wider world's about to wake up to it. In a year in which many of music's new arrivals have turned out to be dweeby bedroom producers and super-polite north London indie bands, 19-year-old New Yorker Azealia is the punk outside the school gates. She's the first pop star we've met in roughly a million years who isn't keeping to the script – she's hip-hop, but she obsesses over Interpol and Adele in equal measure. It doesn't matter that she's unsigned and doesn't even have a Wikipedia entry yet. Cool doesn't wait for such formalities – and Azealia Banks doesn't wait for anyone. If you still need convincing beyond these facts and a spin of '212', here are 10 reasons why she's the coolest person on the planet right now.

**1 '212' HAS RIPPED IT UP AND STARTED AGAIN**  
Azealia Banks has taken over the world off the back of one video. Yes, '212' has lots of top-notch swearing, but it's also joyous, commanding and uncompromising, mooning in the face of anyone who's ever tried to hold her back. It took us the length of the song to realise Azealia Banks was the coolest girl in the world.

**2 SHE'S BEEN COOL FOREVER**  
The first time we saw Azealia was in a viral video about her neighbourhood of Harlem. Back then she was Miss Bank\$, on the street corner dressed in a Colonel Gaddafi shirt and some ripped Daisy Dukes. You see about five seconds of her rapping, dancing round the middle of a circle of guys, freestyling to their claps, telling Rye Rye to "go bye bye". Just 17 then (she's 19 now), you can tell in those five seconds that you're watching a star.

**3 SHE'S ENDING SULKING IN HIP-HOP**  
The Weeknd, Frank Ocean *et al* have conquered all with a winning combination of introspection, melancholy and beats you can cry in the shower to. Azealia is about to break up this party of (admittedly talented) sissies

**4 SHE'S A FIGHTER, NOT A LOVER**  
In her first big *NME* interview she called XL Records chief Richard Russell (the man behind Adele), with whom she used to have a deal, an "asshole" who "doesn't make very good music". She also said Lazy Jay, the guy who produced the '212' sample and removed the song from YouTube, was "called lazy for a reason". Then when she didn't like reading it in print she had a go at us on Twitter!

**5 SHE GOT INTO MUSIC BY ACCIDENT**  
When Azealia started making music she was trying to get attention to break into acting. Only when she played her songs to jawdropped friends did she realise her unbelievable flow. And she can really sing – she'd probably win *The X Factor* if she could go five minutes without cussing.

**6 SHE'S A FEMINIST AND DOESN'T KNOW IT**  
Beyoncé can keep claiming she's running the world in her skimpy, but Azealia tells it how it is. She said recently: "Sometimes women don't know they're in control because they've just been tricked by men for centuries and fucking thousands of years. We've been tricked by men to feel like we aren't the ones in power, but we are."

**7 HER STYLE'S AS UNPREDICTABLE AS HER FLOW**  
Donning a sequined Union Jack dress is probably the tamest look we've seen Azealia work, after a string

of press photos that look like they've been stolen from Dave LaChapelle's imagination. In one she's screwfacing in a bubble bath, in another lying naked under a sheet in a wood cabin and in another she's in a black leather bra and boxing gloves with blood trickling down her face.

**8 SHE PREFERS CATS TO DRUGS**  
Azealia admits: "There are a lot of fucking weirdos in the music industry. It's just like *daym*, how do you get so weird? You can tell they've been struggling with something for a long time. There's a lot of conflicted people. I'm sure I have my demons as well but I'm not really a party girl. I'll have a drink, I may smoke a joint or two but I don't do any drugs. I wanna be at home with my cat and my Kindle and my little stove. Just chilling by myself."

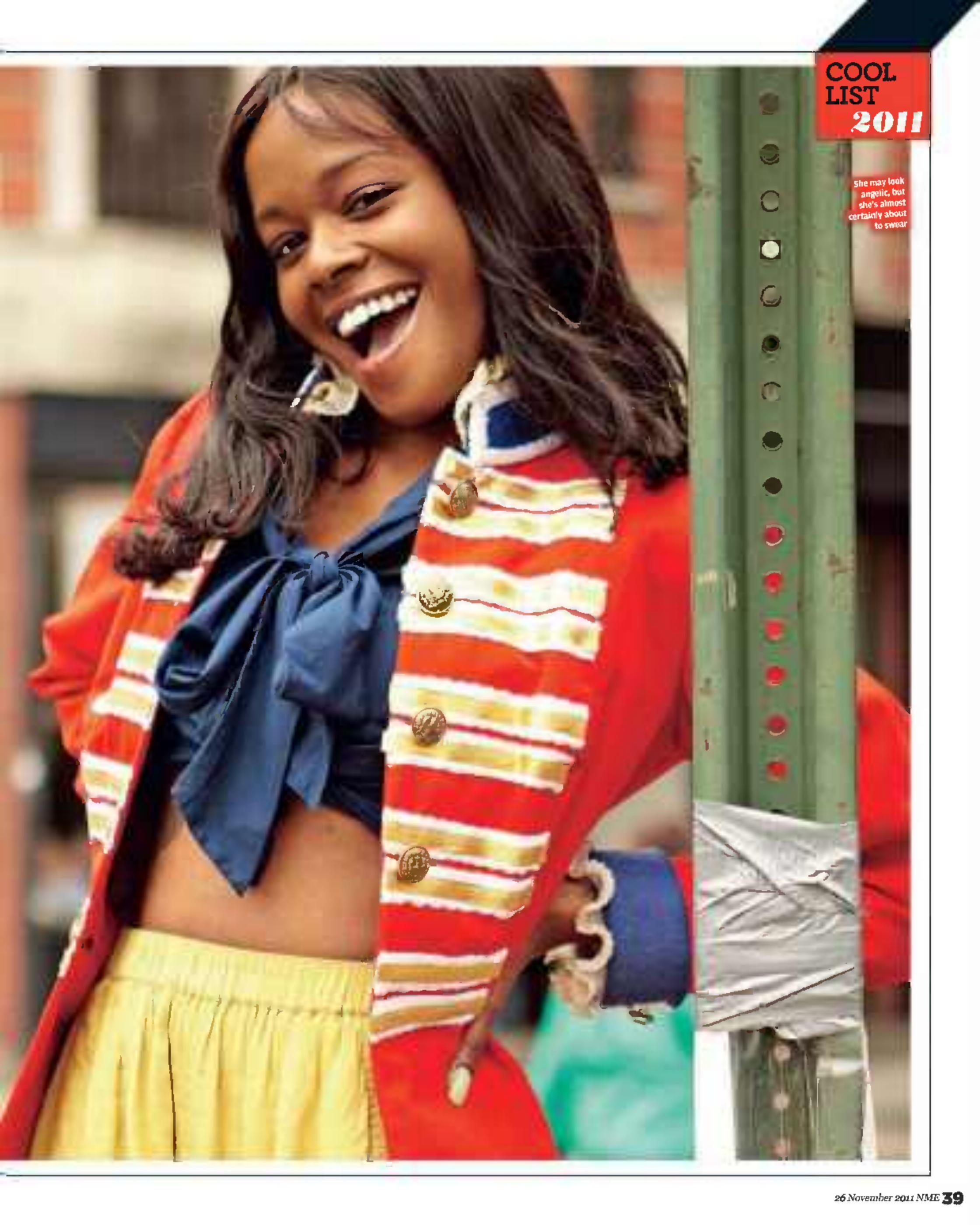
**9 SHE'S ACTUALLY GOT AMBITION**  
Azealia is working on material with Paul Epworth, who of course made Florence an international star. From the underground to the Grammys, everything he touches turns to gold. Azealia's ready to let him steer her in the same direction, saying: "If my ideas are the cargo, he's basically just gonna sail the ship."

**10 SHE KNOWS ALL THE PITFALLS OF COOL**  
Like all good hyped-up buzz acts, Azealia knows that all this attention can be fleeting. "It's like someone at *NME* was talking about the festering corpses of Lil Mama and Kid Sister when they were writing about me. It's like, 'Damn, this shit is fickle.'" Yet instead of seeing this as a reason to ignore the hype machine, and just make music for herself (snore) Azealia sees it as a challenge. "'212' just put in everyone's face," she says. "I'm fucking talented. Don't disregard me because I'll be coming for your ass next." **SW**



**NME.COM** Disagree with our list? Have your say by voting in the *NME* readers' Cool List. Also check out photos of the stars and watch Florence, Miles Kane, Justice and more talking about who they think is coolest.

**NME EXTRA** For the chance to win a massive Cool List package including signed records, tickets, books and other swag from the 2011 Cool List alumni, head to [NME.COM/extra](http://NME.COM/extra). See p10 for info.



**COOL  
LIST  
2011**

She may look  
angelic, but  
she's almost  
certainly about  
to swear

# REVIEWS

PATRICK WOLF, DAN MANGAN

Edited by Emily Mackay



## KATE BUSH

### 50 WORDS FOR SNOW FISH PEOPLE

*Leave your expectations at the door, and this sublime, bewitching hymn to sexy snowmen and dancing snowflakes is a timely treat*



**I**t takes a '70s *señora* like Kate Bush to really make a concept album. None of this vague 'oh, it's kind of about the English Riviera, only most of it's not really' fudge. When Kate Bush sets out to write an album about snow, you get seven songs up to their necks in shivery drifts. You get yeti. You get sex with snowmen.

And, disturbing as the sheet-soddening one-night-stand of 'Misty' is, it's nice to have someone put a bit more effort into being seasonal than sticking on a vintage frock and covering 'Rockin' Around The Christmas Tree' (hellooo, No-ey Deschanel). And '50 Words For Snow' will, in return, demand a little effort from you

Musically, we're in the same expansive, unhurried territory as 2005's 'Aerial', but this time, it's winter. In the cool atmosphere of opener 'Snowflake', the soft impact of piano and muffled drums conjures the feel of thick fluffy snowfall. Kate's voice is soft, subtle, seeming barely impelled by breath, while her son Bertie's is choirboy-pure, cutting silvery and innocent through sparse flurries of *Fantasia* violins, and ripples of high piano notes. It takes a confident mistress of mood to start an album with a nine-minute song so sparsely drawn.

'Lake Tahoe', featuring classical singers Stefan Roberts and Michael Wood, is a chilly choral ghost story based around the urban myth of the

cold Californian mountain lake, whose bottom is rumoured to be lined with perfectly preserved bodies. The smoky and sparse feel of the piano puts us somewhere between minimal modern classical and Carole King or Laura Nyro.

On 'Misty' her voice becomes deeper, minxier, as she husks "give him eyes/Make him smile for me, give him life". Her growl is bewitching, and despite the utter ludicrousness of her love, you become as snowblind in it as she is "Melting in my hand", indeed...

The only yellow spot is the title track, which is, as anyone who remembers 'Pi' from 'Aerial' will be not at all surprised to learn, a list of wackadoodle alternative descriptions for snow ("deamondi-pavlova eiderfalls") recited in Stephen Fry's matter-of-factly *Q&A*-est of tones as Kate counts down the numbers in the background then wildly yells "come on Joe, you got 22 to go" as a chorus.

Sure, it's an interesting *idea*. I could make a song by listing all the names of all the UK's motorway service junctions ("Watford Gap Fleet Newport Pagnaaaaallllll"), but it's doubtful I'd be saying anything to anyone about their lives. But maybe Kate's just having a laugh, throwing you a sonic snowball. She's allowed. The long, hungry hiatus before 'Aerial' has had the effect of making Kate Bush criticism an unnecessarily serious-faced pursuit, but her songs have always reveled in the daft and whimsical.

'Wild Man' is also, frankly, quite silly on first listen. That faintly Eastern motif, the oddly accented, lurching delivery. At first it seems forced, but repeated listens bring out a real sense of the abominable snowman's raw loneliness.

The most surprising moment is a duet with one of Kate's childhood heroes, Elton John. Not just a drug counselor to international pop stars, our Reg is, it seems, still capable of an arrestingly rich and complex vocal on this high-drama tale of time-travelling lovers repeatedly torn apart and reunited, holed up in front of the fire, keeping the snowstorms, faintly menacing synths and the future at bay. Closer 'Among Angels', while less striking, has a spacious, sacred feel. Like the rest of '50 Words For Snow', it makes you crane your head close to listen. Kate Bush no longer needs to cartwheel through dry ice to get your attention. By following her own strange snowy course without thought to what might be expected, she sets her own agenda. To hope for a 'Running Up That Hill' or a 'Wuthering Heights' would be to miss the point, and the subtle pleasures – there's enough people walking the ways Kate cleared 30 years ago. Follow her footprints off the beaten path, and you'll find some weird winter wonders. *Emily Mackay*

7

**DOWNLOAD: 'Snowed In At Wheeler Street', 'Snowflake', 'Lake Tahoe'**

#### THIS IS HARDCORE

what our numbers add up to

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Not-even-funny bad	Barely one saving grace	Actively terrible	Woefully bad or lazy	Depressingly substandard	Dead-on average	Better than average	Really good	Exceptionally good	Of-the-year good	Of-the-decade good



# PATRICK WOLF

**BRUMALIA** HIDEOUT/MERCURY

*Paddy's decking pop's halls with love on this festive EP*



"Sword by side we take the night", he wails. "I see nothing without you", he whines. "Bring me my chariot of fire", he warbles. It's never milk-and-one-sugar with Paddy, is it?

The south London tearaway has long been attempting the sloppy kiss of life on a drab British pop scene. Nonetheless there's a school of thought that Patrick's confessions are too, well, confessional for comfort. And sure, cringe at his unironic kitsch and pop-tastic romanticism all you like, but this is what makes Britain's foremost pop pioneer what he is: while the Gagas are depressingly eager to airbrush away 'personality blemishes', Patrick occupies a strange utopia, where erratic hormones, existential dilemmas and endearing idiosyncrasies run riot under a fuck-off magnifying glass. For anyone who thought interesting lives were for other people, lurching along with him has been a genuine eye-opener.

'Brumalia' – a Roman festival celebrating the winter solstice – mirrors loved-up big brother LP 'Lupercalia', with Patrick harnessing peace of mind to look outwards. It suits him. Cosmopolitan love-triumph 'Together' is 'Lupercalia's sole rep here, but opener 'Bitten' is more concerned with helping guardian angel/boyf Will find some less naff wings. Then there's the euphoric 'This Time Of Year', with provocative wordplay and war imagery, while 'Jerusalem' – a cover of an adaptation of a William Blake poem – provides a glisteningly elegiac centrepiece.

Of course, a mote of angst lingers. "Caught in the drifting years between my youth and adulthood/ Must I slow down now?" wonders the brooding 'Pelicans'. But the point is, rather than getting hung up on Paddy's creative indulgences, which occasionally sputter, you should be wailing, whining and warbling along with him: he's having a good time, and it won't last forever, you know. *Jazz Monroe*

7

**DOWNLOAD: 'Bitten', 'Together', 'Nemoralla'**

## DAN MANGAN

**OH FORTUNE** CITY SLANG



If you were ever a fan of Johnny Flynn's folk-indebted baritone swoons but wished he'd just, like, cheer the hell up a bit, then 'Oh Fortune' is here to brighten

the melancholic corners and then some. Between Mangan's quavering vocal and way with a rabble-rouser lies a touch of the Mumfords – but don't go running just yet. Packed with grandiose Grizzly Bear harmonies (highlight 'Row Of Houses') and slow-building, orchestral touches ('How Darwinian'), 'Oh Fortune' spans a wider spectrum than its folksy core might imply, adding grandeur and a refreshing, cerebral spin to proceedings. *Lisa Wright*

7

**DOWNLOAD: 'Row Of Houses'**

## THE LITTLE KICKS

**THE LITTLE KICKS** THE LITTLE KICKS



Aberdeen's The Little Kicks describe the material on their self-released second album as "catchy indie pop". Compared to far bigger bands talking about every

new release as if it's 'Kid A', this is modest. Yeah OK, they don't shy away from writing a nice chorus, and 'Making Big Decisions' is custom-tooled for an *Inbetweeners* montage, but 'Anti Work Song' and 'Loosen Up' both showcase a nice line in brittle funk, while 'The First Place' and 'Call Of Youth' are pocket epics to be proud of. It's all tap-on-the-shoulder rather than slap-in-the-face music, but there's a lot to like. *Hamish MacBain*

7

**DOWNLOAD: 'The First Place'**

## THE RIDER

What we're watching, reading and wearing this week



**Film**

**My Week With Marilyn**

Probably the biggest star of all time gets a biopic that looks at the torrid underbelly of fame. A radiant Michelle Williams plays Marilyn Monroe as part of a starry cast that includes Dame Judi Dench and Kenneth Branagh.



**Book**

**Lady Gaga X Terry Richardson**

Fashion photographer Terry Richardson spent a year shooting Gaga as she recorded 'Born This Way'. The whopping hardback result is a portrait of a star more likely to wear a coffee table than grace one.



**Clothing**

**Duffer Of St George Alberta Jacket**

In case you needed reminding, it's chilly out, meaning you'll need a coat like this one from Duffer. It's got poppers, is insulated for frosty weather, and it'll make you look like you're in The Drums. What more could you ask for, eh?

## THIS WEEK'S SINGLES

reviewed by NME's

**HAZEL SHEFFIELD**



## THE PIPETTES

**BOO SHUFFLE** FORTUNA POP!



Another confetti-balloon of a single from the girl group that treat their line-up like a revolving door, kind of like the Sugababes, if the Sugababes had just pootled along in mediocrity with only polka dot dresses for consistency. 'Boo Shuffle' sounds like The Saturdays covering Black Lace – 10 seconds in, you'll feel like the cleaning lady picking paper and flaccid latex off the dancefloor.

## STAR SLINGER

**DUMBIN'** WHITE LABEL



Star Slinger is the owner of a ginger beard that, on the scale of ginger beards, falls somewhere between 'chin curtain' Bon Iver and 'righteous Viking' Will Oldham. Hero. He spent the last year mixing up singles by Deerhunter, Small Black and others, and now the Manchester-born DJ steps out with his first single proper: a polished, woozy R&B number with vocals from Missouri hip-hop artist Reggie B.

## YOUNG BRITISH ARTISTS

**EVERYTHING IN FRONT OF YOU**

YBA RECORDS



Anyone still gutted that The Strokes' latest album was about as interesting as watching Albert Hammond Jr's hairline recede will find a ready alternative in

YBA. 'Everything In Front Of You' is drunk on speed: more Tracey Emin's unmade bed than Damien Hirst's diamond skull. You can almost see the lager hurtling through the air at festivals.

## TEETH

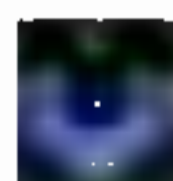
**URI** MOSHI MOSHI



Poor Teeth must be sick of getting compared to Crystal Castles. The similarities persist, even though there's less to get excited about in TEETH's art school version of apocalo-disco. On 'URI' their drummer hammers out tribal dancefloor rhythms under a mash-up of nasty synths and robot vocals. TEETH sound like they'd show The Pipettes where to shove their polka dots, at least.

## LITTLE ROY

**LITHIUM** ARK RECORDINGS



Not many things are more of a headfuck than hearing Nirvana covered by a Rastafarian legend. Off the top of my head: salvia, Princess Beatrice's taste in hats, Pete Burns, Katy Perry's taste in hats. This comes from an entire album of Nirvana reggae revamps that manages to make them sound so rageless, a demon-free Cobain is probably sitting on a cloud in heaven smoking a fat one to this right now.

## PATTERNS

**INDUCTION** MELODIC



If Patterns were at a college induction, their sticker might read 'Neil Tennant-meets-Morrissey vocals fed through epic shimmer guitars'. Then they'd stand up in the introductions and say, "I'll take you to a beach, we can skim pebbles and fall asleep in the grass. You won't remember me in the morning."

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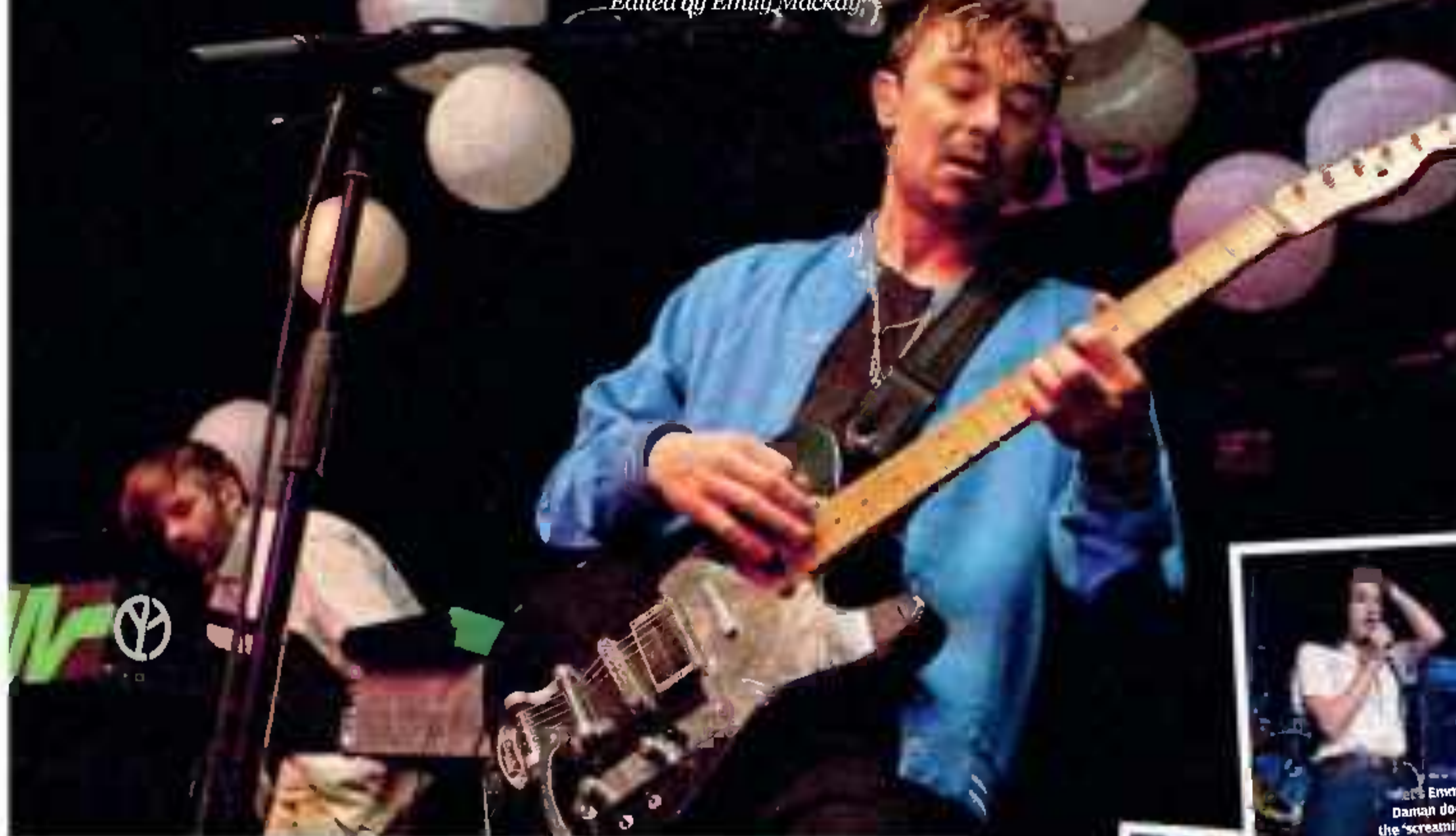
With the  
overseas  
our  
selected  
carefully

The Big Pink have a nice sideline in flogging lampshades

# LIVE

FRANK OCEAN, LADYHAWKE, 254

Edited by Emily Mackay



## CONSTELLATIONS FESTIVAL

LEEDS UNIVERSITY SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12

*The Big Pink rise to a tough challenge – but it's a bad night for Yuck*

**T**he folk behind Constellations have made a good job of injecting atmosphere into some otherwise sterile surroundings. Hookworms set the mood with their unfailingly cacophonous psychedelia, shrouded in near-darkness, only illuminated by the lit orbs hanging above them. For a day filled with effervescent drone and reverb, they're a fitting start.

Outfit bring a lighter touch with their Postcard Records melodies. They confound and surpass comparisons to Wild Beasts and Franz Ferdinand, teetering more on the edge of disco. Set closer 'Two Islands' envelops the room with its futuristic nostalgia alchemy, drenching the crowd in a wave of bliss. A breath of fresh air among all the

shoegazing seriousness, Islet are immensely fun. Once they've overcome their 'am dram troupe plays at being in a band' vibe, they're an altogether brutal prog party. Emma Daman vocally alternates between 'little girl lost' and 'screaming banshee', while the band rages with her.

When she drums, you fear for the skins, and when she sings, you fear for your soul. Islet gel together well, skittering from trashy noise to dance-punk in the vein of Supersystem or Les Savy Fav. With jovial defiance of the stage managers, they draw their set out to a meteoric climax.

Yuck, however, suffer a shaky start to their UK tour. After just one song

('Tolling Out'), the PA cuts out. The band play through their amps, confused, leaving the stage not long after. Jonny Rogoff tries to assuage the boredom with a drum solo but after several minutes of technical frustration, the momentum is well and truly lost. The

***The Big Pink sound much punchier, more alive tonight than they do on record***

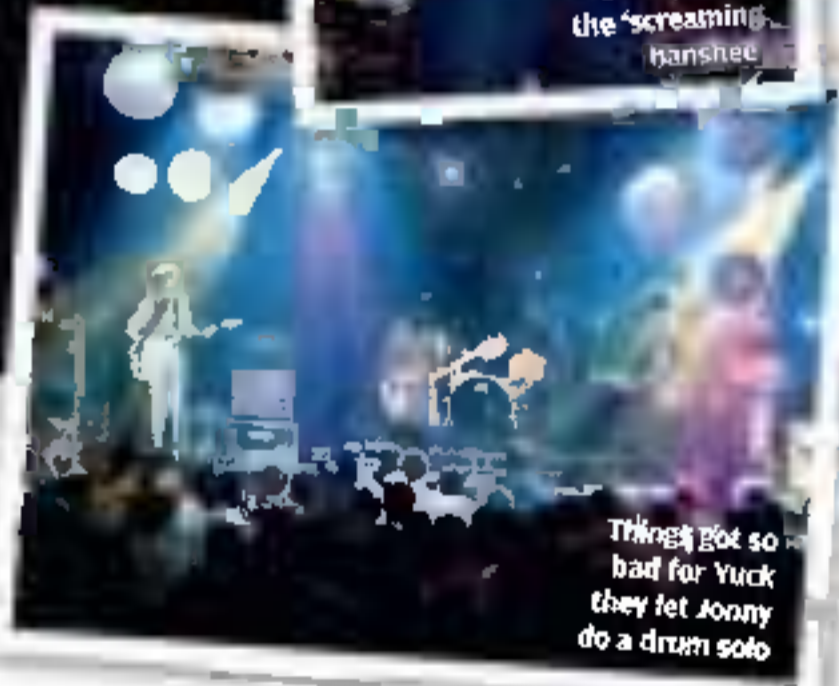
crowd make up for the drop in tension and repay them with adulation on their return. Yuck seem defeated, apologising for the "technical shut".

The Big Pink face the different problem of playing to a more than-half-

empty room. Their response, however, is heroic and they sound much punchier, more alive tonight than they do on record; bold enough to stray from their recorded sound and experiment a little. 'Velvet' sounds darker and has real depth to it, while 'Stay Gold' is crisp and brutal, as though they had smashed the song and were serving it to the crowd in shards. Robbie Furze beams appreciatively throughout the set. The Big Pink may have fallen foul of the allure of Wild Beasts in the other room – and the final refrain of "doing it on my own... I wanna be adored" rings all too loudly round the hollow hall – but their performance belied the poor attendance and was fit for a cast of thousands. *Hayley Avron*



Let Emma Daman do the 'screaming banshee'



Things got so bad for Yuck they let Jonny do a drum solo



## LADYHAWKE

100 CLUB, LONDON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

*The Kiwi electro goddess overcomes stage fright to excel at her first UK show in two years*

"I just want to run up there and give her a hug," the woman behind me comments to her friend. It's an understandable reaction. So shy does New Zealander Pip Brown appear on stage, the urge to pat her Farrah Fawcett feathercut and tell her everything's gonna be OK is quite strong. And on the strength of the eight new songs played tonight, Pip's first UK gig in nearly two years, everything's gonna be very alright indeed.

"Thank you for coming out tonight, guys," she trembles. "I'm so nervous I'm shaking." If the stage fright that plagued her on the release of her self-titled debut in 2008 is still there, though, Pip's very much coming out fighting. In 'Anxiety', the synthy haze that permeated 'Ladyhawke' clears to reveal a rockier structure, Pip's gift for a golden chorus coming to the fore, its nervy edges smoothed with a bit of glammy grind as she asserts "I'm sick of feeling anxious". The saucy 'Behind Blue Eyes' kicks out into the protective fog of dry ice with a Talking Heads-ish groove, and a chorus that goes, astutely, "nah nah nah nah". There's

still the odd little twinkle of keys, but what's notable is the heft of the rhythm section, a playful power-pop that builds on the least synth-dappled, punchiest bits of her debut, the likes of 'Professional Suicide'. It's just as well, because wonderful as the brooding, Pat Benatar-ish chorus of 'Magic' still is, '80s electro power ballads are so last

season, babes. 'Girl Like Me' has a grunge-poppy twist, like Nirvana doing Suzi Quatro, or Breeders at their cheekiest, Pip coyly confiding "I saw you dancing". 'Quick & The Dead' sports a slightly metallic power-pop vibe, with a hint of 'Eye Of The Tiger' in its riff. It's got a late '70s, Cheap Trick/Big Star sort of style, which suits her songcraft down to the ground. She's not shifted far away from the sound of that adorable debut, but she is pushing forward, sounding stronger and more sure of herself. As she closes with a joyful 'My Delirium', a young man down the front finally snaps and bounces onstage to give Pip an embrace that looks more like a thank you than a reassurance. He's only saying what we were all thinking. *Emily Mackay*

### VIEW FROM THE CROWD



Emily Lewis, London

"We were straight online to get the tickets at 9am, as soon as they came out. People where we were stood weren't moving, so we went right down the front. There was a lot of new stuff, but it sounded great, I think she'll still be successful."

## THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE QUEEN

ABOARD GREENPEACE'S RAINBOW WARRIOR/CORONET, LONDON

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10

*Damon gets the old gang back together, for charity – but isn't there a better use of his time?*

Let's be honest, other than offering all involved another chance to dust down their top hats and tails – and Damon doesn't even bother dressing up these days – TGTBATQ have no real need to end their three-year live hiatus tonight. So, just this once, *NME's* forced to swallow the cynicism and accept that tonight really is all about charity rather than (sort of) jumping on the reunion gravy train.

Specifically, it's all about Greenpeace. Taking a break from their camping trip at nearby St Paul's, tonight the crusties have hit the South Bank to celebrate their 40th

anniversary with the launch of new boat the *Rainbow Warrior III*, the stage for tonight's matinee performance. Paul Simonon looks right at home, as well he might, having recently revealed he served onboard another Greenpeace vessel undercover as an assistant cook, getting himself arrested when the *MV Esperanza* launched speedboats at an oil rig off the coast of Greenland. In terms of impact, Damon and co's string-backed set is hardly the Pistols rampaging down the Thames in '77 or that Jacko statue floating past Westminster. It's a reasonable idea in theory, pretty dull in

practice – the modest crowd are too far away from the action to truly radiate in the warmth of soulful songs like 'Herculean' and 'Northern Whale'.

Which, thankfully, isn't a problem when we reach the Coronet a couple of hours later for tonight's main set. This 100-year-old venue is the perfect setting for these darkly infectious tales of Cockney yore. Hearing the likes of 'History Song' and 'Kingdom Of Doom' is like bumping into an long-lost friend

### *It's hardly the Pistols rampaging down the Thames in 1977*

in a train station, or finding a nice old book in a drawer. Meanwhile, it's always great to see Simonon do his bandy-legged punk stance and to just hear Tony Allen, widely considered the world's greatest living drummer.

Still, it'd be no great tragedy if we had to wait another three years to hear them play their only album in track order again (then follow it with a Gorillaz rework for an encore). Considering Damon's current schedule – fingers crossed for a Blur-shaped gap next year, obviously – that's probably a good thing all round. *Rick Martin*



STEW CAPPER, VICTOR FRANKOWSKI



# FRANK OCEAN

**XOYO, LONDON** FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11

*The Odd Future star has collaborated with Jay-Z, Kanye and Beyoncé – and it's easy to see why after witnessing his frills-free debut UK solo show. When you've got a voice like this, who needs bombast?*

**G**oing by his hungrily awaited debut UK live show, there are reasons far and above the fact he comes from booty-mouthed brat troupe Odd Future to show that Frank Ocean isn't your average R&B ingénue. This is most definitely not your average flavour-of-the-month showcase from an urban hopeful in the throes of his European debut. For a start, setting up in the shadowy underground of east London's XOYO gives the whole thing a smoky jazz bar quality that's usually very expensive to pull off badly.

Stranger still, the evening's star attraction rocks up exactly when he's supposed to, making a wheezing mockery of those who ran down the stairs of the venue in surprise after fully

expecting him to operate on hip-hop time. And then there's the level to how lovingly stripped back this all is. There's no big-upping warm up dude, no stage entourage, not even an overblown backing band, there's just a backing track, a pretty psychedelic flashing backdrop, a man in a headband and his incredible croon. This isn't delirious *X Factor* glitz but the stripped-down all about the music nature of rival US show *The Voice*. And this rises above a mere club PA through the sheer mellifluous shimmer of *that* voice, and the charisma with which he ad libs and infuses the songs that have already become sleeper favourites, judging by

the likes of 'We All Try', which skates in the right lane between earnest and saccharine, and 'Novocaine's perfect, drugged up fug.

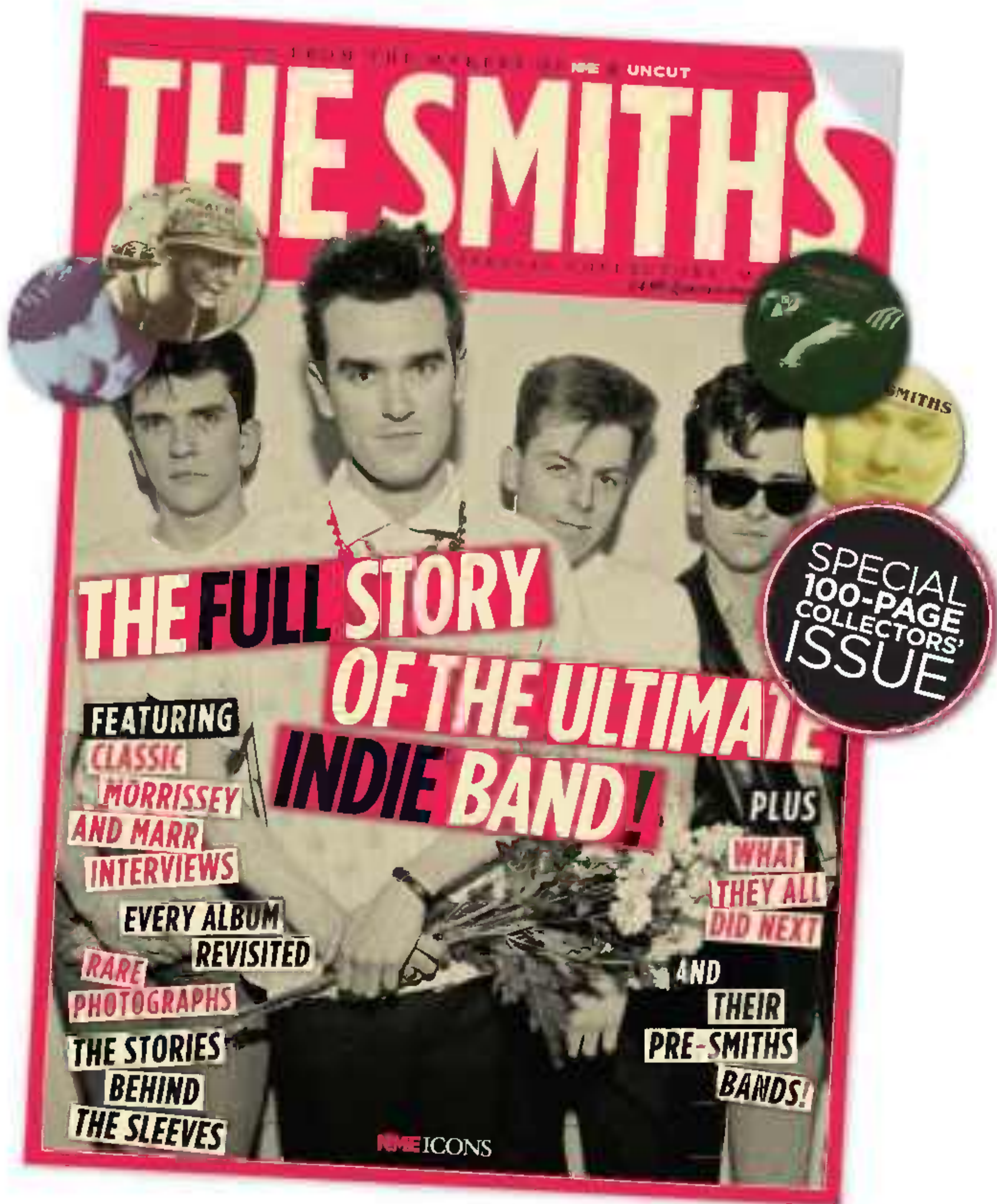
There's new material in the form of 'Disillusioned', a slow jam with the

*This is most definitely not your average flavour-of-the-month showcase*

intimacy of hot breath on your neck that signals Ocean has longer legs than his blog-buzz birth might have suggested. Where all of this runs the risk of getting overshadowed is in his already legendary, borderline-hilarious empowerment turn from 'Watch The

Throne', 'Made In America'. Yet marvellously, both that and the other cut from the record ('No Church In The Wild') get low key, jazz-flecked airings that sound like nothing but interludes between the main event. As does 'I Miss You', the quieter-than-a-pin-in-an-echo-chamber Beyoncé track that first announced him to a more general public.

As the final notes fade out, he whisks away with little more fanfare than that with which he arrived. If anything it's all a bit slight. Would we have enjoyed a few bells and whistles, and maybe an overblown backing band for good measure? Maybe. Did it feel phoned in? Not a bit of it. Is this Odd Future's biggest star, readymade and ready to go? Sweet baby Jesus, only a brat like Tyler would argue. *Dan Martin*



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CORSICA STUDIOS, LONDON

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

*Don't call them spooky or kooky, just call them scarily good*

**I**t's not normally advisable to hang around under south London bridges of a Wednesday night in autumn – trolls and tramps, darkness and danger may lurk under every strut. But then it's not every night that the musical dark side's new hopes 2:54 are playing under a railway arch in Elephant And Castle – and rarer still that the act in question manage to be more intimidating than the rather less than salubrious outdoor surroundings.

Drowning beneath enough dry ice to stage an am dram production of *...Dr Jekyll And Mr Hyde*, you can just about make out singer Colette Thurlow looming from the darkness in ghostly white drapes, and it's harder still to spot her raven-haired sister Hannah thundering away at knotty, foggy guitar parts to her left. Just as the siblings – plus bassist Joel Porter and drummer Alex Robins – are shrouded in choking cloudy swathes, so are Colette's anguished, sensual vocals obscured beneath volcanic bass and weighty guitar that nods to the dag-dag-dag chop of metal music, ominous as old spooks rattling chains deep in the walls.

Combined with the fact that it's impossible to get anywhere near the stage thanks to the buzz surrounding the band, it means you really have to pay attention to be fully absorbed into their world, but it's worth the effort. 'Scarlet' is sharp as the executioner's blade, its metallic tones in beautiful contrast with Colette's vocal; 'You're Early' squeals and squalls like a post-punk relic being ripped kicking and squealing from the past, and on 'EUC', Hannah pushes with the thrum of the bass as if wielding a pneumatic drill.

Although some quarters might be quick to associate the fact that they're a) ladies and b) making stirringly dark sounds with wolfish, witchy signifiers, they're much better suited to the degraded austerity of the venue and dilapidated area than forest-dwelling. There's fuck all airy or fairy in the air tonight, and 2:54's fee-fi-fum isn't a just a grim whisper, but a presence as behemoth-like as the imposing towers outside. If we've learned anything tonight – apart from the fact that myths about hanging around beneath bridges are bollocks – it's that much of 2012 is going to be spent at the behest of the Thurlow sisters' impressive menace. Sign us up as willing minions. *Laura Snapes*

## CANT

CARGO, LONDON

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14

**I**f you've ever stepped inside a venue with an EC postcode you'll know it takes a lot to make Shoreditch visibly enthusiastic. Tonight, however, the applause is nothing short of rapturous. With a Twin Shadow-esque '80s lilt, some hefty beats and effortless three-part harmonies, Grizzly Bear man Chris Taylor's project animates with both a caress and a subtle kick – its low-slung rhythms and dreamy vocal taking on an absorbingly visceral grace under the beam of far, far too many lasers. 'Believe' throbs along on twitchy drum pads and hazy synth samples while Dev 'Blood Orange' Hynes' guitar squalls ease 'Dreams Come True' into the darkly sublime. *Lisa Wright*

## NILS FRAHM

READING MINSTER (ST MARY'S)

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 9

**A**n atheist sat in church usually finds their head filled with all kinds of thoughts: why are the windows so phallic? Why is there no beer in here? But Nils Frahm doesn't allow for a second of this. Set up with just a baby grand, keyboard and a growling synth, the German musician holds us rapt with fluid, minimal, hypnotic piano odysseys that soar and sweep, his sharply melodic phrases twisted round and round 'til we're completely lost. Only when he turns out a dub house-like song is it possible to regain control and think compellingly sinful thoughts. *Chris Parkin*



## DANANANANAYKROYD

THE CLUNY, NEWCASTLE SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12

*The gloriously chaotic Glaswegian six-piece are no more – but this last hurrah is no occasion for misty-eyed farewells*

### VIEW FROM THE CROWD



*Pete Dunn, Tynemouth*

"One of the best gigs I've ever seen. It's the sixth time I've seen them in Newcastle and it's a sad loss. Hats off to them. I don't have a hat but if I did I'd be taking it off right now. Local gigs wouldn't be the same without bands like that, there are too many boring bands who maybe take a good photograph but this lot really capture the moment."

Tonight we're attending a funeral; the dress code is strictly black tie but the mood is far from sombre. We're mourning a dual passing, primarily that of Dananananaykroyd, for whom tonight's gig is their last, but also that of the promoters, Get Involved "They put us on when only six people came to see us, and look at all of you now," singer John Baillie Jnr tells the sold-out crowd.

It's as touching as it is true and important. The relationship between band and promoter is undervalued; if you're a new band you're completely reliant on the dedication and resilience of committed music fans who are willing to take a risk. If you've ever been one of three attendees at a gig by incredible unheard-ofs the chances are that someone hasn't eaten for a week. If more people put the effort into forging these relationships there probably wouldn't be so much bitching and moaning about the industry being fucked, bands would be playing to appreciative audiences and everyone would be living the good life eating scotch eggs and drinking cans every night of the week. They deserve infinitely more credit, without them most bands would never leave their hometown.

Tonight's support band Holy Mammoth make us want to piss ourselves. A mutant pop punk Sonic Youth crossover, they're ferocious, visceral and immensely likable. You could all do a lot worse than checking out tracks 'Suggester' and 'Years'.

Dananananaykroyd themselves are one of the most gloriously chaotic live bands going, listening to them on record doesn't give you a sense of even one-twentieth of their power, which we suppose is unfortunate because, if you've

*This isn't the sort of band who will be doing some shite half-baked reunion*

never seen them, this is just gloating. This isn't the sort of band who will be doing some shite half-baked reunion.

They're hardly going to begrudge us this wee lecture, they're over, finished, kaput and they were completely tucking brilliant. What's important now is the next band that inspires and connects with the crowd as much as they do tonight and who will be there to support them when they do. To Joel Thomson and Jack Chappell of Get Involved and to Dananananaykroyd, we salute you. To the rest of you schmucks, put some goddamn bands on. *Rebecca Robinson*

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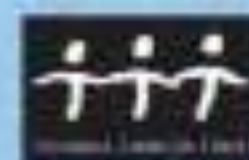
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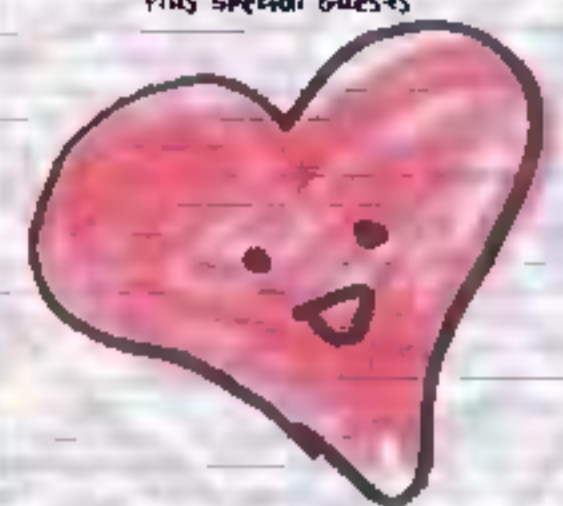
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 08 BIRMINGHAM O<sub>2</sub> ACADEMY2  
 09 LIVERPOOL O<sub>2</sub> ACADEMY2  
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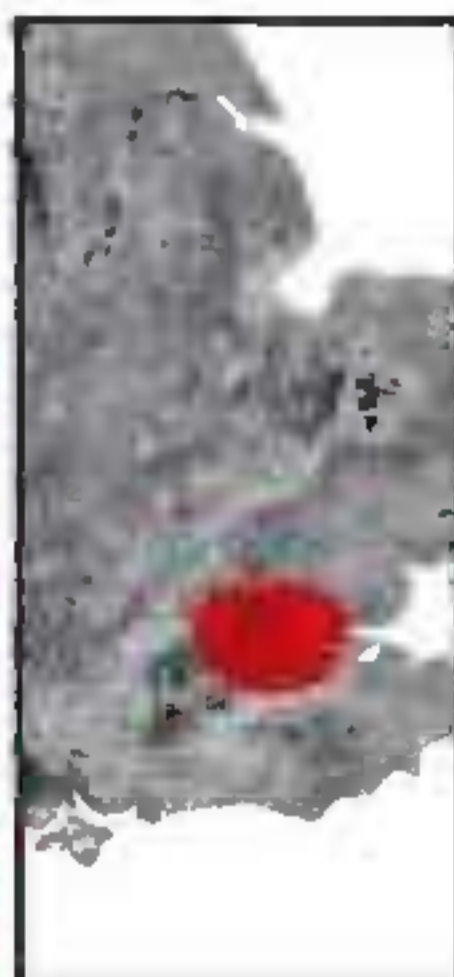
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# GIG GUIDE

THE UK'S BIGGEST GUIDE TO THE WEEK AHEAD

*Edited by Laura Snapes*

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## BOOKING NOW



### NME AWARDS SHOWS

STARTS: London Lexington, Feb 8

DON'T  
MISS

As if the line-up for the NME Awards Tour wasn't incredible enough, have you seen who's playing the NME Awards Shows in February? Bosh dons Justice are calling at Bristol (February 9), London (10), Birmingham (11), Glasgow (12) and Manchester (13), and there are one-off London dates from Charli XCX (8), Slow Club (9), Pure Love (14), Band Of Skulls (15), Tune-Yards (15), Totally Enormous Extinct Dinosaurs (16), Cloud Control (17), The Big Pink (20), Kurt Vile (21), Alabama Shakes (22), Oh Land (23), Little Dragon (24), Marina & The Diamonds (26) and The Drums (27). And that's not to mention the brilliant support acts and a few *more* shows that we'll be announcing soon. Screw Christmas, roll on February



#### KORALLREVEN

STARTS: Dublin Twisted Pepper, Dec 8

On the back of their debut, 'An Album By Korallreven', the Swedish duo announce A Tour By Korallreven, calling at Dublin, Glasgow and London.



#### FUTURE ISLANDS

STARTS: London Rhythm Factory, Dec 8

Noisy Baltimore dudes play with Peaking Lights, followed by a slot at ATP's Nightmare Before Christmas, and hit the UK in March for a tour proper.



#### NEW ORDER

STARTS: London Troxy, Dec 10

Controversially leaving Hooky on the sidelines, Stephen, Bernard, Gillian, Phil and Tom play a one-off date for the rejuvenated New Order.



#### GAGGLE

STARTS: London New Empowering Church, Dec 15

Hark! The herald angels sing! Gaggle perform a special Christmas show, previewing material from their forthcoming debut.



#### KASABIAN

STARTS: The O2 Arena, London, Dec 31

Get ready for a totally empire New Year's Eve with everyone's favourite amateur paleontologists, ringing in 2012 with help from Chase & Status and Zane Lowe.



#### THE MACCABEES

STARTS: Glasgow QMU, Jan 23

Orlando, Hugo, Felix, Rupert and Sam gear up to release their third album, the lustrously titled 'Given To The Wild', and play a round of impressively large shows.



#### HOWLER

STARTS: London XOYO, Jan 26

The Minneapolis rapscallions release their debut album, the intriguingly titled 'America Give Up', and rollick around Blighty on their first headline tour.



#### PULLED APART BY HORSES

STARTS: Glasgow King Tut's Wah Wah Hut, Feb 13

PABH announce a new single, 'VENOM', their second album, 'Tough Love', and a 10-date tour. It's gonna be gnarly.



#### KURT VILE & THE VIOLATORS

STARTS: Brighton The Haunt, Feb 20

The shaggy-haired one brings 'Smoke Ring For My Halo' to these shores for Brighton promoters One Inch Badge's fifth birthday.



#### ATP JEFF MANGUM

STARTS: Minehead Butlins, Mar 9

The delayed weekender now boasts The Magnetic Fields (above), and Mike Watt and George Hurley playing songs of the Minutemen.



#### FEIST

STARTS: London Royal Albert Hall, Mar 25

Her new album, 'Metals', has galvanised even the rustiest of hearts, and we're betting it will sound gorgeous in the vast, elegant Royal Albert Hall.



#### ATP I'LL BE YOUR MIRROR

STARTS: London Alexandra Palace, May 25

Part-curated by Mogwai (above), featuring Slayer, Sleep, Mudhoney, Guided By Voices and Yuck. Hell yes.

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O<sub>2</sub>

# PICK of the WEEK

What to see this week? Let us help



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## MARINA & THE DIAMONDS

STARTS: London St John At Hackney Church, Nov 23

NME  
PICK

So then, this whopping great comeback that Marina had up her sleeve didn't *quite* go to plan. After all the talk and buzz around the all-singing, all-dancing 'Radioactive', a massive, genuinely brilliant banger with the Top 10 apparently in its firing line, Marina's big reintroduction to the pop world... shuffled in shyly at Number 25. But still, we very much doubt that that's going to stop her enduring plans for world domination – and if the nation's ears have any sense, the few songs off her forthcoming second album that we've heard aren't going to be any obstacle to that goal. This intimate gig, as part of the Mencap Little Noise Sessions, will be your only chance to hear Marina's new material this year – and as a bonus you can take in a bevy of pop treats courtesy of Icona Pop and Spark.



### Everyone's Talking About CASIOKIDS

STARTS: London Shacklewell Arms, Nov 24  
It feels like forever since we heard Casiokids' incredible 'Fot i Hose'. Now they're back with corking new album 'Aabenbaringen Over Aaskammen' – and it looks very likely that it'll prove that they're not just Norway's brightest electropop sons, but on an equal footing with Moog-lovers the world over.



### Don't Miss PAT JORDACHE

STARTS: Brighton Sticky Mike's Frog Bar, Nov 28  
When it comes to compiling lists of the most underrated records of the year, Pat Jordache's magnificent debut, 'Future Songs', is sure to be up there. Pat used to play in Sister Suvi with Tune-Yards' Merrill Garbus, but now makes his own wickedly off-kilter pop – think Liars dallying around at the fairground – and this is his band's first UK date.



### Radar Stars TRUCKERS OF HUSK

STARTS: Cardiff Clwb Ifor Bach, Nov 26  
On the last night of Swn Festival, local chaps Truckers Of Husk's set was without doubt the hottest ticket – so hot that NME had to enjoy the show from outside, dancing with a bunch of loons. We've since heard their forthcoming debut, 'Accelerated Learning', and can promise that you won't want to miss out on its mathy thrills.

# WEDNESDAY

November 23

## ABERDEEN

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## BATH

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## BELFAST

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Stealing Sheep/Dan Croll Kitchen

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The Besnard Lakes Ballroom

01273 605789

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The Echoes/Casino Trap/

Never Mundane Croft (Front Bar)

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Fixed In Space & Time/At The Heart

Of It All Fleece 0117 945 0996

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Matt Woosley And The Strange Rain

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Jehst White Rabbit 01752 227522

## PORTSMOUTH

The Naked And Famous Pyramids

023 9235 8608

## SHREFFIELD

Fixers/Troumaka Forum

0114 2720964

King Mojo/The Esquire Leadmill

0114 221 2828

Martin Stephenson Greystones

0114 266 5599

The Vaccines O2 Academy

0870 477 2000

## SOUTHAMPTON

Voodoo Six Joiners 023 8022 5612

## STOKE ON TRENT

The Pigeon Detectives Sugarmill

01782 214 991

## SWANSEA

The Blanks Sin City 01792654226

## YORK

The Brains Stereo 01904 612237

Futures The Duchess 01904 641 413

Turin Brakes Fibbers 01904 651 250



# THURSDAY

November 24



The Darkness,  
UK, March

**ABERDEEN**  
Erit Ten/Fel Comodo/Never Means  
Maybe The Tunnels 01224 211121  
The Winter Tradition/The Bronze  
Medal Cafe Drummond 01224 624642

**BIRMINGHAM**  
DJ Yoda 02 Academy 2 0870 477 2000  
Exodus Calling 02 Academy 3  
0870 477 2000

Frank Turner 02 Academy  
0870 477 2000  
Lanterns On The Lake HMV Institute  
(Temple) 0844 248 5037

**BOURNEMOUTH**  
Those Kids Are Meatballs 60 Million  
Postcards 01202 292 697

**BRIGHTON**  
Alex Murdoch/This Is The Kit The  
Haunt 01273 770 847  
The Dirty Youth The Hydrant  
01273 608 313  
The Moons Sticky Mike's Frog Bar  
01273 749 465

Nine Below Zero/Dr Feelgood  
Komedia 01273 647 100  
Red Snapper/Boy Com Audio  
01273 624343

Trailer Trash Tracys Green Door  
Store 07894 267 053

**BRISTOL**  
Aesthetic Perfection/Uberbyte The  
Tunnels 0117 929 9008  
BIGkidds Thekla 08713 100000  
Heaven Asunder Croft (Main Room)  
0117 987 4144

J Cole 02 Academy 0870 477 2000  
Pure Reason Revolution Thekla  
08713 100000  
Rita Lynch/Annette Berlin/Gary  
Smith Thunderbolt 07791 319 614  
Swimming Louisiana 0117 926 5978  
Voodoo Six Fleece 0117 945 0996

**CARDIFF**  
Anti Nowhere League Bogiez  
029 2034 1463  
Josh T Pearson Clwb Ifor Bach  
029 2023 2199  
My Tiger My Timing/Sleepy Panda  
Club 10 Feet Tall 02920 228883

**DERBY**  
Alex Blood & The Diggers Venue  
01332 203545

**DUNDEE**  
Napalm Death/Threshold Sicks Beat  
Generator 01382 229226

**EDINBURGH**  
Alex Cornish Cabaret Voltaire  
0131 220 6176  
Django Django/The Marvels Sneaky  
Pete's 0131 225 1757

**EXETER**  
Abel Archer Cavern Club  
01392 495 370

**GLASGOW**  
Alabaster Jones King Tut's Wah Wah  
Hut 0141 221 5279  
Coloursmusic Captain's Rest  
0141 331 2722

Dutch Uncles Nice'n'Sleazy  
0141 333 9637  
The Dwarves Ivory Blacks  
0141 221 7871  
Echofela Slouch 0141 221 5518  
Electric Six 02 ABC 0870 903 3444  
Kvelertak 02 ABC2 0141 204 5151  
Monster Magnet Garage  
0141 332 1120

**GUILDFORD**  
Auto De Fe Bolleroom 01483 539 539

**LEEDS**  
Mariachi El Bronx Cockpit  
0113 244 3446

The Pigeon Detectives 02 Academy  
0870 477 2000

Unfurl Seven Arts 0113 262 6777

**LEICESTER**  
Billy Bragg/Akala/Sound Of Rum 02  
Academy 0870 477 2000

Robb Johnson Musician  
0116 251 0080

**LIVERPOOL**  
Misty's Big Adventure Masque  
0151 707 6171

**LONDON**  
Alice Watts/Nickita/David's Praise  
Dublin Castle 020 7485 1773  
Amon Tobin/Raffertie HMV Forum  
020 7344 0044

Cashier No 9 XOYO 020 7729 5959  
Caslokids Shacklewell Arms  
020 7249 0810  
Chris Martin & Jonny Buckland/  
Ben Howard/Emeli Sande St John At  
Hackney Church 020 8985 5374

Creatures Of Love CAMP Basement  
0871 230 1094  
Dead Boy Robotics/The Phantom  
Light Proud Galleries 020 7482 3867  
The Fall Indigo @ The 02 Arena  
0870 701 4444

French Films/Marit Larsen/Soley  
The Lexington 020 7837 5387  
Friendly Fires/SBTRKT/Chad Valley  
02 Academy Brixton 0870 477 2000  
High Roller Garage (Upstairs)  
0871 230 1094

Juan Zelada Dingwalls 020 7267 1577  
Kitty Daisy & Lewis Scala  
020 7833 2022

Lark Bull & Gate 020 7485 5358  
Little Barrie Garage 020 7607 1818  
Magic Lantern Cecil Sharp House  
020 7485 2206

The Megaphonic Thrift Hoxton  
Square Bar & Grill 020 7613 0709  
Michele Stodart Betsey Trotwood  
020 7336 7326

My Cat Is An Alien Cafe Oto  
0871 230 1094

Olof Arnalds St Pancras Old Church  
Oneohtrix Point Never St Giles In The  
Fields 020 7240 2532

Passion Ate Dave Barfly  
0870 907 0999

Piney Gir Book Club 020 7684 8618  
Port-Royal Wilmington Arms  
020 7837 1384

Ren Harvieu Monto Water Rats  
020 7837 4412

School Is Cool The Bowery  
020 7580 3057

Starlings/Tom Kills Electricity  
Showroom 020 7739 3939

Toodad Arch Angel 020 7938 4137  
Trailer Trash Tracys/Mozart Parties  
Old Blue Last 020 7613 2478

Walter Trout 02 Academy Islington  
0870 477 2000

Wild Beasts 02 Shepherds Bush  
Empire 0870 771 2000

Yuck/Fanzine Electric Ballroom  
020 7485 9006

**MANCHESTER**  
Alex Clare Deaf Institute  
0161 330 4019

Alter Bridge/Black Stone Cherry  
Evening News Arena 0161 950 5000  
Arceye Grand Central 0871 230 1094

Curtis Eller/The Hurtful Taunts  
Ruby Lounge 0161 834 1392  
Dick Gaughan Band On The Wall  
0161 832 6625

Fixers Night And Day Cafe  
0161 236 1822

The Game 02 Apollo 0870 401 8000

Hanson Academy 2 0161 832 1111  
Jeremiah Ferrari Retro Bar  
0161 274 4892

The Lottery Winners/Rawcuss/Joint  
Roadhouse 0161 228 1789

Skreamer Base Bar 0161 273 1011  
Wild Palms/Two Wounded Birds/  
Birds Trif Fallowfield 0161 224 0467

Wreckless Eric The Castle  
0161 237 9495

Zola Jesus/EMA Academy 3  
0161 832 1111

**NEWCASTLE**  
Bryan Adams Metro Radio Arena  
0870 707 8000

Is Shepherd Cluny 0191 230 4474  
Jesse Malin & The St Mark's Social  
02 Academy 2 0870 477 2000

**NORWICH**  
The Darkness/Crown Jewel Defense  
UEA 01603 505401

**NOTTINGHAM**  
Dimmu Borgir Rescue Rooms  
0115 958 8484

Marcus Foster Bodega Social Club  
08713 100000

**OXFORD**  
Alabama 3 02 Academy  
0870 477 2000

Matt Schofield 02 Academy 2  
0870 477 2000

**PLYMOUTH**  
Rusko University 01752 663337

**SALFORD**  
The Staves/Paul Thomas Saunders  
Sacred Trinity Church 0161 834 2041

**SHEFFIELD**  
Skyhook Greystones 0114 266 5599

Turin Brakes Leadmill 0114 221 2828  
Wolfsbane 02 Academy 2  
0870 477 2000

**SOUTHAMPTON**  
Against Me!/The Living Daylights  
Talking Heads 023 8055 5899

Textures Joiners 023 8022 5612

**SWANSEA**  
Fish Garage 01792 475147

**WOLVERHAMPTON**  
Gundogs/Raven Vardelle Slade  
Room 0870 320 7000

Wednesday 13 Wulfrun Hall  
0870 320 7000

**WREXHAM**  
Shaun Ryder Central Station  
01978 358780

# FRIDAY

November 25

**ABERDEEN**  
Django Django The Tunnels  
01224 211121

**BELFAST**  
Electric Six Spring & Airbrake  
028 9032 5968

Kasabian Odyssey 028 9073 9074  
The Staves Stiff Kitchen 028 9023 8700

**BIRKENHEAD**  
Megadeth UK Revolver 07871626557

**BIRMINGHAM**  
The Game HMV Institute  
0844 248 5037

The Lovely Eggs Victoria Bar  
0121 633 9439

Middleman Flapper 0121 236 2421  
The Ting Tings 02 Academy 2  
0870 477 2000

UK Subs HMV Institute 0844 248 5037

**BOURNEMOUTH**  
Fear Of Men/Bos Angeles 60 Million  
Postcards 01202 292 697

**BRIGHTON**  
Alabama 3 Concorde 2 01273 673 311  
Caslokids The Haunt 01273 770 847

Run Young Lovers/Abel Archer The  
Hope 01273 723 568

65daysofstatic Duke Of York  
01273 818549

**BRISTOL**  
Bok Bok Thekla 08713 100000

Bravo Sierra/Know Buses Croft  
(Main Room) 0117 987 4144

The Carry Villains/Fromage En Feu/  
Medicine Creek Fleece 0117 945 0996

CW Stoneking Trinity 01179 351 200  
Dan Haywood's New Hawks Cafe  
Kno 01179 249200

The Experimental Pop Band  
Thunderbolt 07791 319 614

Joker Motion Ramp Park 01179 723117  
Langur/We Are Strangers Mind Croft  
(Front Bar) 0117 987 4144

The Randy Swindlers Canteen  
0117 923 2017

**CAMBRIDGE**  
Imelda May Corn Exchange  
01223 357851

Wild Beasts Junction 01223 511511

**CARDIFF**  
Played Disciple/Storm The Walls/  
Mantikore Bogez 029 2034 1463

The Shallow Souls/Age Of Anarchy  
Buffalo Bar 02920 310312

**COVENTRY**  
Shaun Ryder Kashbah 024 7655 4473

**DERBY**  
King King Flowerpot 01332 204955

**DERRY**  
Rams Pocket Radio Playhouse  
028 7126 8027

**DUNDEE**  
Rod Jones & The Birthday Suit Beat  
Generator 01382 229226

**EDINBURGH**  
Hanson/Melko HMV Picture House  
0844 847 1740

Hudson Mohawke/The Blessings  
Sneaky Pete's 0131 225 1757

The Pigeon Detectives Liquid Room  
0131 225 2564

**EXETER**  
Josh T Pearson Phoenix  
01392 667080

**GLASGOW**  
Bryan Adams SECC 0141 248 3000

Cal Oran Mor 0141 552 9224

The Defects Ivory Blacks 0141 221 7871

Frank Turner/The Sleeping Souls/  
Emily Barker & The Red Clay Halo

Barrowlands 0141 552 4601

The Winter Tradition Captain's Rest  
0141 331 2722

**GUILDFORD**  
Cubrik/Munroe Effect/Foley Artist  
The Star Inn 01483 532 887

Run From Robots Youth & Community  
Centre 01483 533942

**LEEDS**  
Black Lace Brudenell Social Club  
0113 243 5866

The Dwarves Cockpit Room 2  
0113 244 3446

James Blake University  
0113 244 4600

Mark Morriss Milo 0113 245 7101  
My Tiger My Timing Cockpit  
0113 244 3446

The Saw Doctors 02 Academy  
0870 477 2000

**LEICESTER**  
The Zombies Y Theatre 0116 255 6507

**LIVERPOOL**  
Arceye Krazyhouse 0151 708 5016

Billy Bragg/Akala/Sound Of Rum  
Picket 0151 708 5318

Kissy Sell Out Magnet 0151 709 6969  
PP Dog Static Gallery 0151 7078090

Wire 02 Academy 2 0870 477 2000  
Zola Jesus/EMA Kazimir  
0871 230 1094

**LONDON**  
db Band Monto Water Rats  
020 7837 4412

Age Of Consent Old Blue Last  
020 7613 2478

Alexi Murdoch Union Chapel  
020 7226 1686

Alternative TV/Viv Albertine 02  
Academy 2 Islington 0870 477 2000

Chris Liberator Jamm 020 7274 5537  
Chromeo HMV Forum 020 7344 0044

The Dancers/Findlay Club NME @  
Koko 0870 4325527

The Darkness/Crown Jewel  
Defense HMV Hammersmith Apollo  
0870 606 3400

The Devil's Blood Underworld  
020 7482 1932

Foster The People 02 Shepherds  
Bush Empire 0870 771 2000

Friendly Fires/SBTRKT/Chad Valley  
02 Academy Brixton 0870 477 2000

Fruit Bats/Brown Derby Hoxton  
Square Bar & Grill 020 7613 0709

Generation Graveyard Boston Arms  
020 7272 8153

Goldfrapp/Alpines St John At  
Hackney Church 020 8985 5374

Good Man Ray/The Elizans Dublin  
Castle 020 7485 1773

The Heartbreakers/Kings Of The City  
Nambucca 020 7272 7366

I Am Giant Barfly 0870 907 0999  
Jools Holland Royal Albert Hall  
020 7589 8212

Kate Walsh Purcell Room  
020 7960 4242

Labyrinth Ear/Hourglass Sea The  
Dalston Vic 020 7275 1711

Leah Kardos Wilmington Arms  
020 7837 1384

Lior Bordenline 020 7734 5547  
Liz Green Kings Place 020 7520 1485

The Loft The Lexington 020 7837 5387  
Marnie Brown Bush Hall  
020 8222 6955

Milk Maid Garage 020 7607 1818

Monster Magnet KOKO  
020 7388 3222

Mouse On Mars Barbican Centre  
020 7638 8891

My Cat Is An Alien Cafe Oto  
0871 230 1094

Olof Arnalds St Pancras Old Church

Pharaohs From The Grave/The  
Black Crayon Theatre/The Razzle

Cargo 0207 749 7840

Textures/The Ocean Garage  
(Upstairs) 0871 230 1094

Uns/GC Dayer Constitution  
020 7387 4805

Van Haze Shacklewell Arms  
020 7249 0810

**CONTINUED OVERLEAF**

# FRIDAY

November 25



◀ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 59

**Widowspeak/The Model Village**  
Windmill 020 8671 0700  
**Yellow Wire Bull & Gate**  
020 7485 5358  
**MANCHESTER**  
**Aesthetic Perfection** Moho Live  
0161 834 8180  
**BAJIM** 02 Apollo 0870 401 8000  
**Dimmu Borgir** Academy 2  
0161 832 1111  
**Doyle & The Fourfathers** Dry Bar  
0161 236 5920  
**The Jessie Rose Trip** Night And Day  
Cafe 0161 236 1822  
**Kvelertak** Roadhouse 0161 228 1789  
**Loco Dice** Warehouse Project  
0161 835 3500  
**Marcus Foster** Deaf Institute  
0161 330 4019  
**Sat'ly Allsorts** Band On The Wall  
0161 832 6625  
**The Vaccines** Academy 0161 832 1111  
**Wednesday 13/Michael Monroe** HMV  
Ritz 0161 236 4355  
**Whipcord** Academy 3 0161 832 1111  
**MILTON KEYNES**  
**Black Casino & The Ghost** Watershed  
07935 641 660  
**Fall Against Fate** Plitz 01908 660392  
**Saves The Day** Craufurd Arms  
01908 313 864  
**NEWCASTLE**  
**The JTA** Dog & Parrot 0191 261 6998  
**Wolfsbane/Obsessive Compulsive**  
02 Academy 2 0870 477 2000



**NORWICH**  
**Dodgy** Waterfront 01603 632 717  
**NOTTINGHAM**  
**Charlie Don't Surf** Tap & Tumbler  
0115 941 3414  
**Detonate Hospitality** Rescue Rooms  
0115 958 8484  
**Lanterns On The Lake** Bodega Social  
Club 08713 100000  
**Swimming** Contemporary  
0115 948 9750  
**Voodoo Six** Rock City 08713 100000  
**OXFORD**  
**Bedlam/Rusko** 02 Academy  
0870 477 2000  
**Ocean Colour Scene** 02 Academy  
0870 477 2000  
**PLYMOUTH**  
**Will Young** Pavilions 01752 229922  
**POOLE**  
**The Beat** Mr Kyps 01202 748945  
**PRESTON**  
**Misty's Big Adventure** Mad Ferret  
07919 896 636  
**READING**  
**Erol Alkan** Sub89 0871 230 1094  
**On A Trall/Screama** Ballerina Rising  
Sun 0118 957 2974  
**Riverhart** South Street Arts Centre  
0870 477 2000  
**SALFORD**  
**Lisa Hannigan** St Philip's Church  
0161 834 2041  
**SHEFFIELD**  
**Example/Fenech-Soler** 02 Academy  
0870 477 2000  
**Mariachi El Bronx** Leadmill  
0114 221 2828  
**Northern Oak/The Prophecy**  
Corporation 0114 276 0262  
**Nucleus Roots** Harley 0114 275 2288  
**SOUTHAMPTON**  
**Beth Hart** Brook 023 8055 5366  
**The Vibrators** Talking Heads  
023 8055 5899  
**STOKE ON TRENT**  
**The Get Alongs/I Dream In Colour**  
Sugarhill 01782 214 991  
**ST ALBANS**  
**The Vertigos** Horn 01727 853 143  
**TRURO**  
**Ingested** Live Bar 01872 264 611  
**TUNBRIDGE WELLS**  
**Fixers** The Forum 0871 277 7101  
**WOLVERHAMPTON**  
**Shakin' Stevens** Civic Hall  
01902 552121  
**Montego Bay** The Duchess  
01904 641 413  
**Naomi Bedford** Basement  
01904 612 940  
**Napalm Death** Fibbers 01904 651 250

**ABERDEEN**  
**Bryan Adams** AECC 0870 169 0100  
**BEDFORD**  
**King King** Esquires 01234 340120  
**BELFAST**  
**The Quireboys** Spring & Airbrake  
028 9032 5968  
**BIRMINGHAM**  
**Against The Wheel** The Ballroom  
**Dimmu Borgir** 02 Academy 2  
0870 477 2000  
**Idiom/Six Day Sober** 02 Academy 3  
0870 477 2000  
**Punk Wreck** Wagon & Horses  
0121 772 1403  
**Red Snapper** HMV Institute (Temple)  
0844 248 5037  
**Split Like This** HMV Institute (Library)  
0844 248 5037  
**BOURNEMOUTH**  
**Shed Seven** 02 Academy  
0870 477 2000  
**BRIGHTON**  
**Swimming** Sticky Mike's Frog Bar  
01273 749 465  
**Wild Beasts** Concorde 2  
01273 673 311  
**Bristol**  
**Alabama 3** 02 Academy  
0870 477 2000  
**Blackbeard's Tea Party/Sons Of**  
**Sunday/Origami Robot** Croft (Main  
Room) 0117 987 4144  
**The Following** Announcement  
Fleece 0117 945 0996  
**Kate Walsh** Louisiana 0117 926 5978  
**Purescence** The Cooler  
0117 945 0999  
**The Surfin'** Turnips/Smokey  
**Bastards** Croft (Front Bar)  
0117 987 4144  
**Widowspeak** Start The Bus  
0117 930 4370  
**CARDIFF**  
**Barefoot Dance Of The Sea** Pot Caf  
02920 251 246  
**Morning Star/The Vendettas**  
Buffalo Bar 02920 310312  
**Truckers Of Musk** Clwb Ifor Bach  
029 2023 2199  
**Will Young/Jodie Marie** St David's  
Hall 029 2087 8444  
**DERBY**  
**The Vibrators** The Vic Inn  
01332 74 00 91  
**DERBY**  
**The Coronas** Nerve Centre  
028 7126 0562  
**DUBLIN**  
**Exit Ten/Fel Comodo** Beat  
Generator 01382 229226  
**The Pigeon Detectives/John Wean**  
Fat Sam's 01382 228181  
**EDINBURGH**  
**The Saw Doctors** HMV Picture House  
0844 847 1740  
**White Heath/Aames/The Aperture**  
Cabaret Voltaire 0131 220 6176  
**EXETER**  
**Chris T T/Franz Nicolay** Cavern Club  
01392 495 370  
**Macka B** Phoenix 01392 667080  
**FALMOUTH**  
**Nordic Giants** Miss Peapod's  
0871 230 1094  
**GATESHEAD**  
**Beverley Knight** Sage Arena  
0870 703 4555  
**GLASGOW**  
**Alexi Murdoch** Captain's Rest  
0141 331 2722

# SATURDAY

November 26

**Deep Purple** SECC 0141 248 3000  
**Glenn Tilbrook** King Tut's Wah Wah  
Hut 0141 221 5279  
**The Laynes/Modus/Les Boff** Ivory  
Blacks 0141 221 7871  
**Shades Of Rhythm/Dream**  
Frequency The Arches 0141 565 1000  
**Skrillex** 02 ABC 0870 903 3444  
**WeeGee** Blackmarrs 0141 552 5924  
**Wolfsbane** 02 ABC2 0141 204 5151  
**GUILDFORD**  
**Chasin'Jade** Bolleroom 01483 539 539  
**HATFIELD**  
**Ocean Colour Scene** The Forum  
0844 477 2000  
**LEEDS**  
**Future Of The Left** Cockpit  
0113 244 3446  
**I Am In Love** Cockpit Room 2  
0113 244 3446  
**Lanterns On The Lake** Brudenell  
Social Club 0113 243 5866

**LONDON**  
**Dave Dobryn** 02 Shepherds Bush  
Empire 0870 771 2000  
**The Dirty Youth** 02 Academy 2  
Islington 0870 477 2000  
**DJ Yoda** Bloomsbury Bowling Lanes  
020 7691 2610  
**Example/Ed Sheeran/Birdy** St John  
At Hackney Church 020 8985 5374  
**Friendly Fires/Little Dragon** 02  
Academy Brixton 0870 477 2000  
**The Game** HMV Forum  
020 7344 0044  
**Healer/Monster/Awooga** Cougar  
Hope & Anchor 020 7354 1312  
**Weather** Findlay Borderline  
020 7734 5547  
**Jan Jelinek** Cafe Oto 0871 230 1094  
**Josh T Pearson** Barbican Centre  
020 7638 8891  
**Kvelertak/Toxic Holocaust/Trap**  
**Them** Underworld 020 7482 1932

**Unknown Pleasures/Midnight**  
**Wire/World Of Ugly** Dublin Castle  
020 7485 1773  
**Vice Squad** New Cross Inn  
020 8692 1866  
**MANCHESTER**  
**Andrew Weatherall/James**  
**Blake/Optimo** Warehouse Project  
0161 835 3500  
**The Birds** Deaf Institute  
0161 330 4019  
**Dead Swans** Moho Live 0161 834 8180  
**Ezio** Academy 3 0161 832 1111  
**Frank Turner/Emily Barker & The**  
**Red Clay Halo/The Sleeping Souls**  
02 Apollo 0870 401 8000  
**Hobbe Stuart** Night And Day Cafe  
0161 236 1822  
**MILTON KEYNES**  
**Leatherat** Plitz 01908 660392  
**Walsh & Pound** Stables  
01908 280800  
**NEWCASTLE**  
**Alter Bridge/Black Stone Cherry/**  
**Theory Of A Deadman** Metro Radio  
Arena 0870 707 8000  
**Curtis Eller** Cluny 0191 230 4474  
**Hanson** 02 Academy 0870 477 2000  
**Overdrive** Comerhouse  
0191 265 9602  
**Saves The Day** 02 Academy  
0870 477 2000  
**NORWICH**  
**J Cole** UEA 01603 505401  
**Pure Reason** Revolution Arts Centre  
01603 660 352  
**NOTTINGHAM**  
**Casiokids** Bodega Social Club  
08713 100000  
**Heatseeker** Rock City, Basement  
0115 941 2544  
**Mosca** Stealth 08713 100000  
**Textures/The Ocean** Rescue Rooms  
0115 958 8484  
**Wednesday 13/Michael Monroe** Rock  
City 08713 100000  
**OXFORD**  
**Pezet/Parlas** The Regal 01865 241 261  
**Skeleton/Malefice/Taste My Eyes** 02  
Academy 2 0870 477 2000  
**POOLE**  
**The Fall** Mr Kyps 01202 748945  
**PORTSMOUTH**  
**Mariachi El Bronx** Wedgewood  
Rooms 023 9286 3911  
**Skabill Rebels** Cellars 0871 230 1094  
**PRESTON**  
**Vintage Trouble** 53 Degrees  
01772 893 000  
**SHEFFIELD**  
**Aynsley Lister** Band 02 Academy 2  
0870 477 2000  
**Driftrun** lionworks Plug  
0114 276 7093  
**Kitty Daisy & Lewis** Leadmill  
0114 221 2828  
**Tyla & The Dogs** D'Amour  
Corporation 0114 276 0262  
**SOUTHAMPTON**  
**The Dwarves** Joiners 023 8022 5612  
**STOKE ON TRENT**  
**Already Gone** Underground  
01782 219944  
**WOLVERHAMPTON**  
**Martin** Carthy Newhampton Arts  
Centre 01902 572690  
**YORK**  
**The Blanks** Fibbers 01904 651 250  
**Katy B** Tokyo York 01904 620 203  
**Mama's Gun** The Duchess  
01904 641 413



## GET IN THE GIG GUIDE!

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

## SUNDAY

November 27

## BELFAST

The Coronas Empire 028 9024 9276  
Yuck Queens University  
028 9097 3106

Breeze & Wilson Kitchen Garden  
Cafe 0121 443 4725

## BOURNEMOUTH

Vintage Trouble Old Fire Station  
01202 503888

## BRIGHTON

Kate Walsh Komedia 01273 647 100

Love Among The Mannequins

Prince Albert 01273 730 499

Proud Mary Sticky Mike's Frog Bar

01273 749 465

The Rocket Docks The Hydrant

01273 608 313

## BRISTOL

Ashes To Ashes/Glue/Depths Croft

(Front Bar) 0117 987 4144

Beverley Knight Colston Hall

0117 942 3383

Dutch Uncles The Cooler

0117 945 0999

Foster The People Anson Rooms

0117 954 5810

Hold To This/The Hotel Ambush

Croft (Main Room) 0117 987 4144

John Cooper Clarke/Byron Vincent

Fleets 0117 945 0996

Lisa Hannigan St George's Hall

0117 923 0459

Marcus Foster Thekla 08713 100000

Never The Bride Tobacco Factory

0117 907 0344

Shed Seven O2 Academy

0870 477 2000

## CARDIFF

The Callas Undertone 029 2022 8883

Chris TT/Franz Nicolay The

Promised Land 029 2039 8998

Mariachi El Bronx Clwb Ifor Bach

029 203 1199

## DERBY

Crash Of Rhinos The Vic Inn

01332 74 00 91

## EDINBURGH

Loch Lomond Sneaky Pete's

0131 225 1757

Pete Molinari Voodoo Rooms

0131 556 7060

## GLASGOW

Adam Ant O2 ABC 0870 903 3444

Alex Murdoch/This Is The Kit

Captain's Rest 0141 331 2722

Alter Bridge/Black Stone Cherry

SECC 0141 248 3000

Jonnie Common Mono

0141 553 2100

Muscles Of Joy/Palms Oran Mor

0141 552 9224

My Tiger My Timing Captain's Rest

0141 331 2722

Wednesday 13 Garage 0141 332 1120

Yasmin King Tut's Wah Wah Hut

0141 221 5279

## LEEDS

Voodoo Six The Well 0113 2440474

## LEICESTER

Aynsley Uster Band Musician

0116 251 0080

## LIVERPOOL

Kitty Daisy & Lewis Masque

0151 707 6171

Professor Green/Rizzle Kicks

University 0151 256 5555

Wolfsbane O2 Academy 2

0870 477 2000

## LONDON

Amorphis O2 Academy 2 Islington

0870 477 2000

Artery/My Elastic Eye The Lexington

020 7837 5387

Emily & The Faves MacBeth

020 7739 5095

The Eyes Of A Traitor Barfly

0870 907 0999

Frank Turner/The Sleeping Souls/

Emily Barker & The Red Clay

Halo HMV Hammersmith Apollo

0870 606 3400

Hornet Monarch 0871 230 1094

I'll Eat Your Face/The Thinking Men

Dublin Castle 020 7485 1773

J Cole/Dot Rotten KOKO

020 7388 3222

Macka B Jamn 020 7274 5637

Sinead O'Connor/King Creosote

St John At Hadley Church

020 8965 5374

Skyfar Hoxton Square Bar & Grill

020 7613 0709

The Telescopes/The Cult Of Dom

Kell 0117 945 0999

0117 945 0999

The Gentrymen/Fractured

Academy 3 0161 2 1111

Lanterns On The Lake Deaf Institute

0117 945 0999

Little Dragon Ruby Lounge

0161 834 1392

Napalm Death Moho Live

0161 834 8180

Textures Academy 2 0161 832 1111

The Ting Tings Sound Control

0161 236 0340

Widowspeak The Castle

0161 237 9485

## NEWCASTLE

Rihanna/Calvin Harris Metro Radio

Arena 0870 707 8000

## NORWICH

Roni Mayes The Bicycle Shop

01603 625 777

## NOTTINGHAM

The Dirty Youth Rock City

08713 100000

Jesse Malin & The St Mark's Social

Rescue Rooms 0115 958 8484

Reckless Love Rock City

08713 100000

## PRESTON

Curtis Eiler Mad Ferret

07919 896 636

## READING

Brotherhood Of The Lake/Chapter

Face Bar 0118 956 8188

## SHEFFIELD

Kit Holmes Greystones

0114 766 5599

The Wonder Years Corporation

0114 276 0362

## SOUTHAMPTON

Aesthetic Perfection/Uberbyte

Talking Heads 023 8055 5899

The Morning Parade Joiners

023 8022 5612

## STOKE ON TRENT

Jonah Matranga Harry's Bar

01782 416 567

## ST ALBANS

The Zombies Alban Arena

01727 844 488

## WOLVERHAMPTON

Heather Findlay Robin 2

01904 7860

## WREKHAM

Alabama 3 Central Station

01978 358780

## YORK

The Lovely Eggs/The Bronze Medal

Fibbers 01904 651 250

## MONDAY

November 28



## BELFAST

Dimmu Borgir Spring & Airbrake

028 9032 5968

## BIRMINGHAM

The Drums HMV Institute

0121 444 0337

J Cole/Dot Rotten O2 Academy

0121 477 0000

## BRIGHTON

Kasabian Centre 0870 900 9100

Lisa Hannigan Komedia

01273 647 100

The Lovely Eggs Prince Albert

01273 730 499

Pat Jordache Sticky Mike's Frog Bar

01273 749 465

## BRISTOL

Army Of Freshman/8 Days Later

Croft (Main Room) 0117 987 4144

## CARDIFF

The Game University 029 2023 0130

Twin Atlantic University

029 2023 0130

## DERBY

Beth Hart Flowerpot 01332 204955

## EDINBURGH

Laura Marling St Giles' Cathedral

0131 225 9442

## EXETER

Sworn To Oath/Cambion Cavern Club

01392 495 370

## GLASGOW

Instrumental Stairway 0141 221 1009

Loch Lomond Captain's Rest

0141 221 1722

Professor Green Barrowlands

0141 552 4601

Pure Reason Revolution King Tut's

Wah Wah Hut 0141 221 5279

Textures/The Ocean Cathouse

0141 221 5279

Thurston Moore The Arches

0141 265 1000

Yellowcard Garage 0141 332 1120

## LEEDS

Black Stone Cherry Metropolitan

University 0113 283 2600

Jonah Matranga The Well

0113 2140474

## LIVERPOOL

Bryan Adams Echo Arena

0844 8000 400

Electric Six O2 Academy

0870 477 2000

Skyline Sketch Parr St Studios

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0870 907 0999

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The Special Ks The Bowery

020 7580 3057

The Static Jacks/Ice Black Birds

Social 020 7636 4992

Unknown Mortal Orchestra/Fanzine

XOYO 020 7729 5959

## MANCHESTER

The Morning Parade Ruby Lounge

0161 834 1392

Reckless Love Academy 3

0161 832 1111

Rihanna/Calvin Harris Evening News

Arena 0161 950 5000

## NEWCASTLE

Misty's Big Adventure Cluny

0191 230 4474

My Extraordinary O2 Academy 2

0870 477 2000

Wednesday 13/Michael Monroe O2

Academy 0870 477 2000

## NORWICH

Mariachi El Bronx Waterfront

01603 632 717

## NOTTINGHAM

Flogging Molly Rock City

## THIS WEEK IN 1996

GIRL POWER, GREAT SCOTS, NOT SO BAD DOGG



## A DOGG IN THE DIRT

Snoop Dogg's second album, 'Tha Doggfather', is awarded six out of 10. "Six songs out of a whole 20 seems like a poor return on anyone's investment," writes Ted Kessler. "This finds him casting far too often. But the challenge wasn't to take things to a new plateau, it was to keep the walk and the talk real. And for a multimillionaire, he makes a pretty convincing street hustler."

## SINISTER SUMMER

It's certainly a very good week for Glaswegian anti-mainstream indie types in the On new bands section, with both Mogwai and Belle & Sebastian doing their first ever interviews in NME. "I think a lot of people make art rock but forget to actually rock because they're too busy arting," rants the former's Stuart Braithwaite. "What we're doing couldn't be termed 'rock' in any sense of the word," insists the latter's Stuart Murdoch. Look out, the charts!

## SPICE TO MEET YOU

With Spicemania in full flow, NME meets the talk of town, at this point going by Posh, Sporty, Scary, Sweet and Sexy Spice. Last week's issue featured a reader letter that said: "When what once was a great music paper rates The Spice Girls' album as meaning 'everything' we are in a bad way."

Mel B spots NME's Paul Moody in the corner of a warehouse where the Girls are filming and points him out: "HEY I VERY BODEE!" she hollers. "NME are here and even *they* think we're fucking credible!"

They talk about Courtney, rock'n'roll, Janis Joplin, the Pistols, page three: how they are "rebels with a cause", how they ain't going anywhere, and why they are as valid as those other current darlings of UK music. They are regarded by NME as being "a group with the looks of high street supermodels, pop savvy and a working knowledge of the indie charts, talking complete sense in a room where every five minutes someone bursts in begging for an autograph."

"Oasis are doing their thing, and that's great. But it's just [getting attention] in the same way as the Stones or the Pistols," Geri Halliwell states. "So if we're getting attention by them looking at me being topless in the papers or looking at Vicki's legs, great. We're getting people's attention and *then* we hit them with the message."

## ALSO IN THE ISSUE THAT WEEK

- The Fugees are criticised for having condemned an illegal bootleg of their Number One hit 'Ready Or Not', while releasing an album of remixes called 'Bootleg Versions'
- Jamiroquai, Skunk Anansie and Tindersticks all feature in the live section
- Oasis are reported to be abandoning sessions for their third album because of the number of stories that are leaking to the press
- There's an advertisement for the Sony MiniDisc. "Record it, rearrange it and delete it without gaps, at the touch of a button"
- A piece on the MTV Europe Video Awards has presenter Jarvis Cocker making the following gag: "What did the cannibal do after dumping his missus? He wiped his arse"

NME

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# THE LEGENDARY NME CROSSWORD

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

Compiled by Trevor Hungerford

Win!

## A BAG OF NME SWAG



### CLUES ACROSS

- 1 Snow Patrol have been in a tumbledown state more than once (6-7)
- 8+9A Somehow make the older bit go from The Vaccines (5-5)
- 10 (See 33 down)
- 12+14A "\_\_\_\_\_, address unknown / No such number, no such zone", Elvis Presley (6 2-6)
- 15 (See 22 down)
- 16+31D Jimi Hendrix called out to him and made this song his own (3-3)
- 18 "He talks at \_\_\_\_\_, he gets nosebleeds", from Blur's 'Charmless Man' (5)
- 19 "Oh when we walk, it always feels so nice / And when we talk it seems like paradise", 1978 (5)
- 20 Chicago in the mid-'80s saw the origin of \_\_\_\_\_ house music (4)
- 21 The Horrors performing on satellite TV? (6)
- 24 "Weep for yourself, my man, you'll never be what is in your \_\_\_\_\_", from Mumford & Sons' 'Little Lion Man' (5)
- 25 "When I fall, no-one catch me / Alone, lonely, I'll overdose slowly", 2006 (6)
- 27 'Concrete And Clay' was a '60s Number One for \_\_\_\_\_ Four Plus Two (4)
- 29 Album-wise it all began for them with just a 'Murmur' (3)
- 30 Invest one penny in Fiji drink mix with Americans at the 'House Of The Rising Sun' (6-4)
- 32 Babyshambles fans' favourite, '\_\_\_\_\_ Of Eden' (4)
- 34+24D Mr Bean's had a remix done of SCUM, number (5-5)
- 35 In 1995 he noted 'Everything Is Wrong', this year his music has been 'Destroyed' (4)
- 36 Used by slowcore duo to transport their first work of art displayed in a 'Heavy Black Frame' (4)

### CLUES DOWN

- 1 They 'Skip To The End' and 'Worry About It Later' (11)
- 2 Rock classic that begins with line "You know that it would be untrue" (5 2-4)
- 3 It's all gone wrong for electro band from Glasgow (6)
- 4 Nitzer \_\_\_\_\_, band with an 'Industrial Complex' (3)
- 5+26D Group that turned 'A Whiter Shade Of Pale' (6-5)
- 6 (See 13 down)

- 7 Gave 51d wrong information regarding Friendly Fires' drummer (7)
- 11 Irish band who were 'On The Turn' being hounded to the side of the road (7)
- 13+60D Legendary guitarist and producer turns into an older singer (4-7)
- 17 "Lovely \_\_\_\_\_, meter maid, nothing can come between us", from The Beatles' 'Sgt Pepper' album (4)
- 21 Rate sky awful for using an Oasis name (7)
- 22+15A Their singles include 'Underdog' and the recent 'Loverboy' (3-2-2-3)
- 23 Any point in dancing to Crowded House's '\_\_\_\_\_ In My Feet' (5)
- 24 (See 34 across)
- 26 (See 5 down)
- 28 Limo comes around for member of Big Pink (4)
- 31 (See 16 across)
- 33+10A Before getting 'Aroused' he found it all 'A Chore' (3-3)

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Simply cut out the crossword and send it, along with your name, address and email, marking the envelope with the issue date, before Tuesday, November 29, 2011, to the following address: Crossword, NME, 9th Floor, Blue Fin Building, 110 Southwark Street, London SE1 0SU.

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

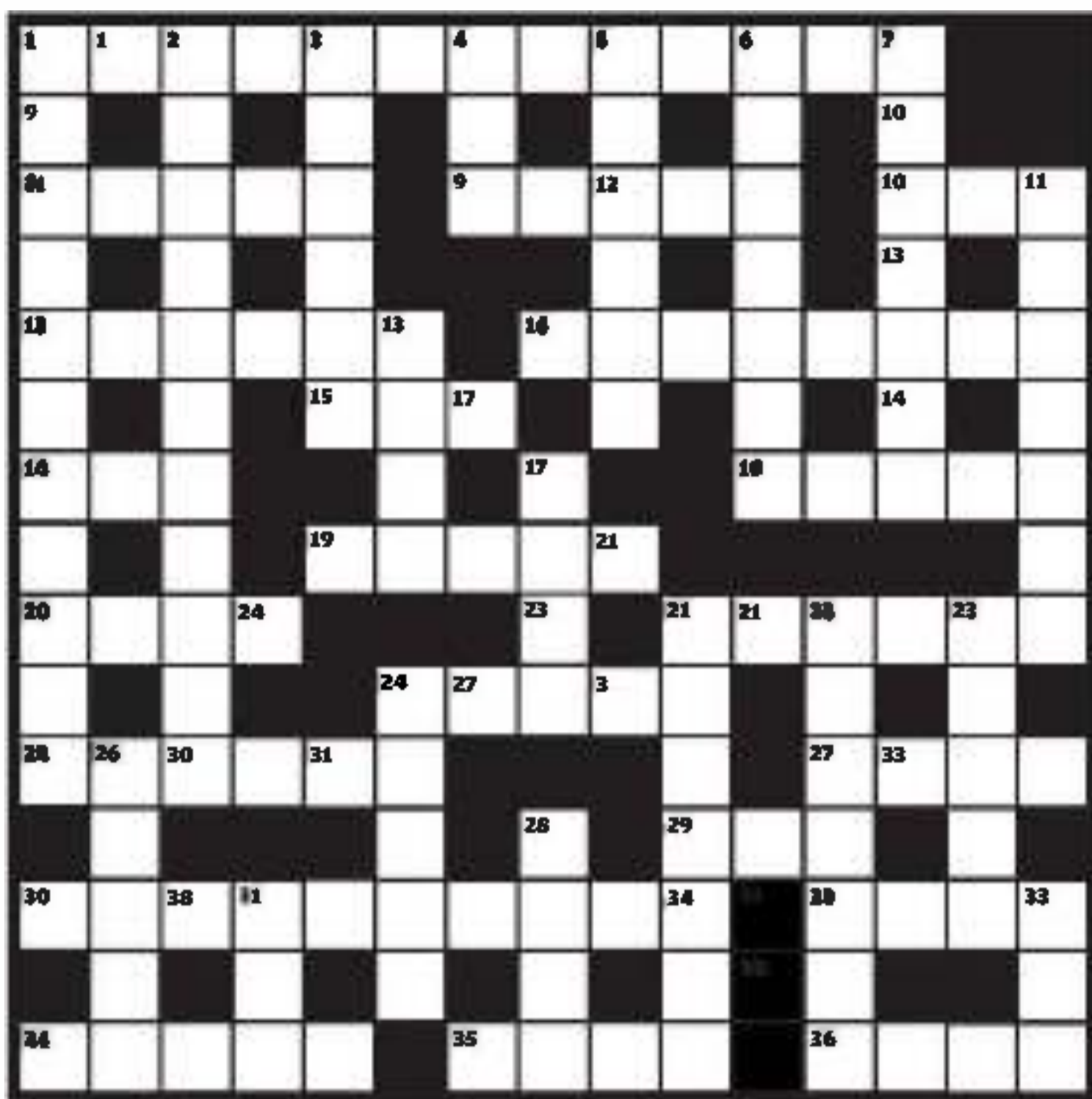
### NOVEMBER 5 ANSWERS

#### ANSWERS ACROSS

- 1 Shake It Out, 9+20 Amber Hands, 11 Pentangle, 12+25A Eat To The Beat, 13+7D No Sleep Till Brooklyn, 14 O'Neal, 15+24D Let 'Em In, 17 Cupid, 18 Spleen, 19 Paradise, 22 Vedder, 27 Sign, 29 Rhoda, 30 Being, 34 Harris, 35+28D Lady Gaga

#### ANSWERS DOWN

- 3 Keane, 4 Iggy Pop, 5+33A One Wild Night, 6 Tape Loop, 8+16D Spinal Tap, 10 Bitter End, 17 Curved Air, 18 Seven, 20 Datsuns, 21 Stars, 23 Dove, 26+32D Enola Gay, 30 BT, 31 Ira



## COLLECTORS' CORNER THE CURE

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



### THE GLOVE - BLUE SUNSHINE (1981)



The sole LP by the supergroup featuring The Cure's frontman.

Robert Smith and Steve Severin of Siouxsie and The Banshees (a band in which Smith also briefly played). Jeanette Landray, then girlfriend of Banshees drummer Budgie, sang the majority of songs because Smith's record company wouldn't let him sing.

**Need To Know:** A 2006 reissue contains demos that has Smith singing vocals on all the songs rather than Landray.

### THE CURE IN ORANGE (1980)



At the height of their fame in the mid-'80s, the band recorded a concert film based around

two shows they performed at the Théâtre Antique d'Orange in the French countryside. The 23-song set features a host of favourites spanning their career up to that point, including seven tracks from 1985's 'The Head On The Door'.

**Need To Know:** At the beginning of the gig, bassist Simon Gallup pulls off Robert Smith's wig to reveal a new, shorter haircut.

### ENTREAT (1988)



Live album recorded by the band at London's Wembley

Arena during their Prayer Tour in July 1989. The collection features a tracklisting consisting entirely of songs taken from the album 'Disintegration', released earlier that year. Bizarrely, the first two singles released from the record, 'Lullaby' and 'Lovesong', are not featured.

**Need To Know:** The album was initially only released in France, but a proliferation of bootlegs saw it given a limited release elsewhere in Europe.

### COGASM - A SIGN FROM GOD (1998)



Another Smith side project, the three-piece, featuring

latterday Cure drummer Jason Cooper and Tin Machine guitarist Reeves Gabrels, was put together to record a track for the South Park creators Trey Parker and Matt Stone's movie Orgazmo. Another song, 'Wrong Number', was also recorded by the trio but later released as a Cure tune.

**Need To Know:** The band name was derived from the first two letters of each bandmember's surname.

# FANMAIL

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

Edited by Barry Nicolson



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## The Big Issue

What everyone's talking about this week

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## 99 PROBLEMS WITH THE 99 PER CENT

From: David Price  
To: NME

I'm just writing in to express my utter disgust with Jay-Z for exploiting the Occupy Wall Street movement by pasting a slightly altered version of their logo onto a T-shirt, charging idiots \$22 a pop to wear one, and then not donating a single penny to aid the cause. Don't get me wrong - I love the guy's music, but behaviour like this is simply inexcusable. It's exactly the sort of crass, brazen opportunism the movement is fighting so hard against, and it'll cost Jay-Z a lot more in credibility than the comparatively paltry sum it will earn him in dollars. I know it was probably a little idealistic of me to expect a multi-millionaire rap mogul who's married to Beyoncé to have any sort of grip on reality, but I can't help but feel let down and disappointed.

**NME's response...**

Well, Rocawear have since stopped hawking the offending T-shirts, so there is that. But you're right, the whole affair just seems a bit off. You could - and some probably will - argue that the whole thing was just a misunderstanding, that one of the music

industry's most astute businessmen simply 'forgot' to kick back some lucre into OWS' Clean Underwear fund in exchange for the use of their logo - but that sounds a bit dubious to me. Perhaps he simply (and wrongly) thought that

the free advertising would be worth more to the movement than money. Jay-Z has built his career on the image of being hip-hop's CEO, the chairman of the board, the ultimate one-percenter. But, like you, we thought that's all it was: an image.

He'll always be a great artist, but if I'm being honest, I personally think a little less of him as a person after this - BN

Get in touch at the above addresses. Winners should email letters@NME.COM to claim their voucher.

## INDIE DIPLOMACY IN ACTION

From: Hugues  
To: NME

Yes, I sometimes agree with some of the NME 'fanmail' complaining about this or that. Yes, you're sometimes partial, sometimes review things in bad faith and I often disagree with you... But, boy, do I fucking love you. I should probably explain: I'm a new reader here. Most of all: I'm French. So when I sometimes read moody emails about how NME could be better, I can't help wishing I had you English people's luck. Have you seen French music magazines? Have you heard French bands lately? OK, you've got some pretty shit bands (Coldplay, WTF?!). We've got some OK ones too. But seen from the other side of the Channel, you're this weird country that gave birth to the lamest food but the coolest bands, the country every French rock lover wishes he was born in. London exhales rock'n'roll, while Paris exhales French poseurs who dress, walk and talk but never sound like The Libertines. So you have the right to be mad at your favourite mag sometimes, but you Brits should always remember your luck in getting damp under the same rain as The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, The Clash, Arctic Monkeys and so many more.

From: NME

To: Hugues  
Wow. What a thoughtful, considered letter. You don't really 'get' the letters page, do you Hugues? Not to worry, although I do think you're being just a teensy bit harsh on your music-

making compatriots. The Libertines, after all, were confirmed Francophiles who took much of their shtick from an assortment of 18th-century Gallic nutters, so there's a bit of cultural give-and-take there. For another thing, you regularly produce amazing dance music. And most importantly of all - at least you're not German. They may be Europe's economic powerhouse, but they're also its musical abattoir - BN

## 'DIFFICULT'? BAH, HUMBUG!

From: Alex Marshall  
To: NME

As a huge fan of Arctic Monkeys, I'm getting a bit tired of NME constantly dismissing 'Humbug'. In the most recent issue, NME stated: "Frankly, no-one but [the band] came to hear the likes of 'Pretty Visitors' and 'Dance Little Liar'." I for one love 'Humbug'; every time 'Pretty Visitors' is played there's such great energy that you just don't get from the likes of 'Mardy Bum' or the woeful 'Brick By Brick'. I would love more 'Humbug' to be thrown in - 'Secret Door', 'Cornerstone' and 'My Propeller' all work great on the stage. I suggest people have a good listen to the album and realise that it's much deeper and interesting than even their most recent record, so please, NME give some credit to 'Humbug', then maybe people can see what a great album it really is.

From: NME

To: Alex Marshall  
Funnily enough, I've always thought that being called 'difficult' is really a badge of honour for an album: some of my favourite

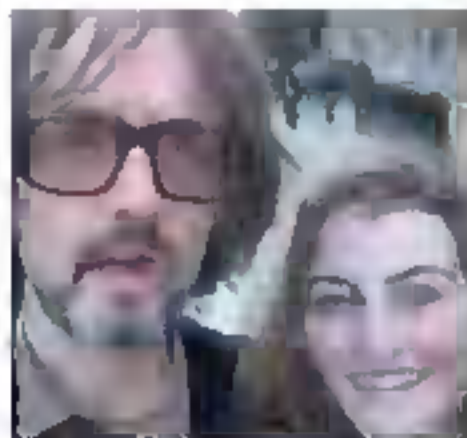
albums from my favourite bands – 'Kid A', 'This Is Hardcore', the soundtrack from *Labyrinth* – are widely described as just that. 'Humbag' is probably the fourth most popular Monkeys album, but who cares? Certainly not the band themselves. After all, you don't venture into the desert with Josh Homme to make an 'easy' album, do you? – BN

## STILL BANGING THE DRUM

From: Gary Mitchell

To: NME

Neil Renton, did you watch The Stone Roses' press conference (Oct 29)? Nobody, of course, will deny that it is a big payday, but it is so much more than that. The band mean it; most of us know that, and even if they totally fuck it up again, they owe us absolutely nothing. We have had two great LPs from them (yes, two). Can you imagine if 'Second Coming' was released today by anyone else; it would be rightly regarded as, at the very least, the good work it is. So I tell you what, why don't we tell them not to bother? So we can be force-fed soulless, pointless, bland, regurgitated sounds from the likes of Kasabian, Beady Eye, Noel Whatshisname's High Flying Tossers, Snow



## STALKER

From: Alice

To: NME

"I was amazed to bump into Jarvis Cocker while on the big student protest in London!"

Patrol, Coldplay et al, all promoted by a clique of high-profile safe radio DJs. And that's the point. The Stone Roses are now in the mainstream proper, and they will shake up the scene, with something to say. And we badly need that. The Stone Roses are king. And their crowning is a few months away.

From: NME

To: Gary Mitchell

Congratulations, Gary! You've just won the inaugural NME Letters Page Sentence Of The Week award! The gilded string of syllables in question? "Can you imagine if 'Second Coming' was released today by anyone else; it would be rightly regarded as, at the very least, the good work it is." I don't know about anyone else, but that sort of talk makes

# Web Slinging

The highlight of this week's NME.COM blogs

## WHY I LOVE SLIPKNOT'S 'IOWA' – THE MOST DEPRAVED ALBUM EVER

I'm by no means NME's metal kid. And in my eyes, there's been no more than a handful of great metal albums – ever. With this in mind, Slipknot's 'Iowa' ticks every box. Tunes? Every track. Something to buy into? Without a doubt. Believably, certifiably nuts? Definitely. Where so much metal sounds like processed cheese, 'Iowa' sounded fresh, 100 per cent genuine, truly deranged. And, at the same time, so much of it

sounds massively pop. 'Left Behind's chorus-verse structure and hummable riff certainly endeared them to a much wider audience than ever before. The sloganeering of stuff like 'People = Shit' and 'The Heretic Anthem' also ensured they had the disaffected teen vote. Above all else, everything here sounds as fresh today as it did 10 years ago. It's not just a classic of the genre, it's a classic full stop. Read Rick Martin's blog in full at NME.COM now...



### Best of the responses...

Slipknot have always been as heavy as mainstream metal can get. This album is one of my favourites of all time. They were incredible at Sonisphere and it was the perfect tribute to Paul Gray. Sam Falcon

Go see Slipknot live, that will change your life... Luke Charley Thorpe

This album outclassed most, if not all, metal albums in history, including their own. Arnon Maehei

I've not been a massive fan of the band but after seeing them live I can quite happily say they are one of the best live bands ever. Since seeing them I've been getting into them more and starting to really love their stuff, and 'Iowa',

of course, is just amazing. Robert Parkinson

I don't listen to them much anymore, but I still really respect what Slipknot were doing on those first two albums. Dan Crawshaw

me want to drop everything I'm doing, log the fuck in to Spotify, search the fuck out of 'Second Coming', listen to the five half-decent songs it contains, and then go about my business as before, basically unchanged but for the 30 minutes of my life that's gone forever. Fucking magic, Gary – BN

## CREEPY GIRL WRITES

From: Anna Harvey

To: NME

Hey NME, long shot but could you please print my letter so that I can ask Alex Turner of Arctic Monkeys if I can write a musical based on his songs. I'm 15. And a girl, if you were wondering. As if that makes a difference. But yeah. I write reviews too if you fancy hiring me? Didn't think so. I will keep sending this letter every week 'til you print it. Kthnxbai

From: NME

To: Anna Harvey

Happy to oblige with your

first request, Anna. As for the second – you can have my freelance commissions when you prise them from the vice-like grip of my cold, dead fingers. Times are tough, and it's a man-eat-dog world out there – BN

## THIS LETTER IS SO LAST YEAR

From: Karl Ozols

To: NME

I recently read your 50 best debut albums by year. I felt obliged to write in and say that, while it was good, it was not great. I guess I own a bit more than half those albums, and I know it was by year, but there were so many idiots that wrote back to you asking why didn't you have these bands and their debuts (that were all made in the same year!). Jesus fucking Christ! People can't read!?! They're all probably bourgeoisie [Yes, that is EXACTLY the problem – BN]. But come on, Bob Dylan's debut album? (PS I have this album, in fact I have most of his albums). Not

only could he not play properly, his voice was terrible. His lyrics are fantastic so maybe he should have written them down as a book and got it out that way. I mean the only reason he got to make that debut was because [...a bizarre, ill-considered and entirely unprintable conspiracy theory follows, stopping just short of transdimensional space lizards, but still crackers enough to give David Icke pause for thought – BN]. Anyway here's my 50 debut albums of all time. I think I put a lot more thought to it than you guys have... [Sniiiiip! – BN]

From: NME

To: Karl Ozols

Karl. Karl, Karl, Karl. Oh, Karl. Firstly, you've written in to offer a critique of a list that was published over a year ago: have a word with your newsagent, mate. Secondly, you own "most" of Bob Dylan's recorded

output, but reckon he would have been better off writing books and not music because... whatever. You believe he only got a record deal because... well, let's not go there. And finally, you reckon that 'Temple Of The Dog' is the 46th greatest debut album of all time. I'm throwing down the gauntlet here, readers: who will see Karl's wrongness and raise it some? Let's have ourselves a proper letters page – BN



## STALKER

From: Rhiannon

To: NME

"Here's me and my friend Becky with Patrick Wolf in Oxford. He said he liked my jacket and I was honoured."

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# DOES ROCK'N'ROLL KILL BRAINCELLS?

TESTING MUSICIANS' MEMORIES AFTER A LIFETIME OF ABUSE

*This Week*

## BOY GEORGE

### QUESTION 1

Which Culture Club song does the George character sing twice in a row when he takes over lead vocals in 1998 comedy *The Wedding Singer* (below)? "Do You Really Want To Hurt Me". There was only that Culture Club song in that film. I know that Virgin sold it to them for about five pence, which I was fucking fuming about. Cunts."

*Er... correct*



### QUESTION 2

Your book *King Of Queens* (below right) is a pretty damn pricey one – how much does it cost if I pre-order one now, assuming I live in the UK?

"I think about £500. I don't know about things like that, how much things cost."

*Wrong. It's £399 and a whopping £40 for postage. Would you personally bring the book around my house for that?*  
"I think I should!"

### QUESTION 3

What colour hat were you wearing when you presented this year's Brit Award for British Female Solo Artist to Laura Marling?

"Oh my god. Was it green?"

*Wrong. Blue with sparkly bits (see right)*  
"Yes. With little white frosty diamonds on."

Where did you get that hat, George?  
"It was a present from Philip Treacy, who is a lovely Irish milliner. He made that mad thing for [Princess] Beatrice [at the Royal Wedding] that sold for a fortune."

### QUESTION 4

When BBC commentator John Motson famously said,



"The Crazy Gang have beaten the Culture Club" during 1988's FA Cup Final, which team had won?

"Manchester United"

*Wrong. Wimbledon had beaten Liverpool. Not a big footy fan then, George?*

"No. I'm into Arsenal. Geddit?"

### QUESTION 5

You were forced to do five days of community service in New York for wasting police time in 2006 (left). What colour, exactly, was your jacket?

"Well, it was an orange, kind of plastically jerkin drama. It was a Bolero-style jacket with no sleeves. It was definitely orange because I kept saying, 'You've been Tangoed', and it might have had yellow bits on as well."

*Correct*

### QUESTION 6

You've appeared twice on ITV's *The Alan Titchmarsh Show*, once in December 2009 and once in September 2008. Name three other guests you shared Alan's sofa with

"Twiggy. I can't remember. The rest of my band?"

*Wrong. That doesn't count. Anita Dobson, Ken Livingstone, Sue Carroll, Twiggy, Max Clifford*

### QUESTION 7

You once rather famously said you prefer "a nice cup of tea" to sex. What type of shoes do all the Tetley Tea Folk wear in their TV adverts?

"Clogs?"

*Wrong. Slippers*

### QUESTION 8

What number did Culture Club drummer Jon Moss have on his American football shirt when you performed 'Karma Chameleon' on *Top Of The Pops* in September 1983?

"Oh God. I don't know! 69?"

*Wrong. 88. Why American football players?*

"I think we'd just run out of things to dress up as. That period was the pinnacle of our excess."



### QUESTION 9

Name three items you get if you order a 'Boy George Culture Club Fancy Dress Outfit' for £34.99 from Amazon.com

"Well, you get a hat. A terrible wig. A sort of tunic. And a headband."

*Correct. And you get some free make-up*  
"I bet it's really cheap shit."

### QUESTION 10

Culture Club are set to play a gig in Sydney on New Year's Eve. What time will it be in the UK when it strikes midnight in Sydney?

"It's about 12 hours' difference, isn't it?"

*Wrong. Australia is 11 hours ahead, so it will actually be 1pm on New Year's Eve in the UK*

*Total Score*  
**3/10**

"If you'd asked me about the '70s I'd have got 10 out of 10"

Go to [NME.COM/blogs](http://NME.COM/blogs) for the full Braincells hall of fame (and shame)

*Coming Next Week*

WEDNESDAY  
NOVEMBER  
30

# WORLD EXCLUSIVE AMY WINEHOUSE THE SECRET SESSIONS

"IF WE DIDN'T MAKE  
THIS RECORD, SOMEONE  
ELSE WOULD HAVE  
DONE IT. BADLY"

**MARK RONSON &  
SALAAM REMI ON THE  
MOST TALKED ABOUT  
ALBUM OF THE YEAR**

**PLUS: SHOULD IT  
BE RELEASED?  
THE VACCINES, JUSTICE,  
THE HORRORS AND  
MORE HAVE THEIR SAY**

**ALSO IN  
THIS ISSUE**

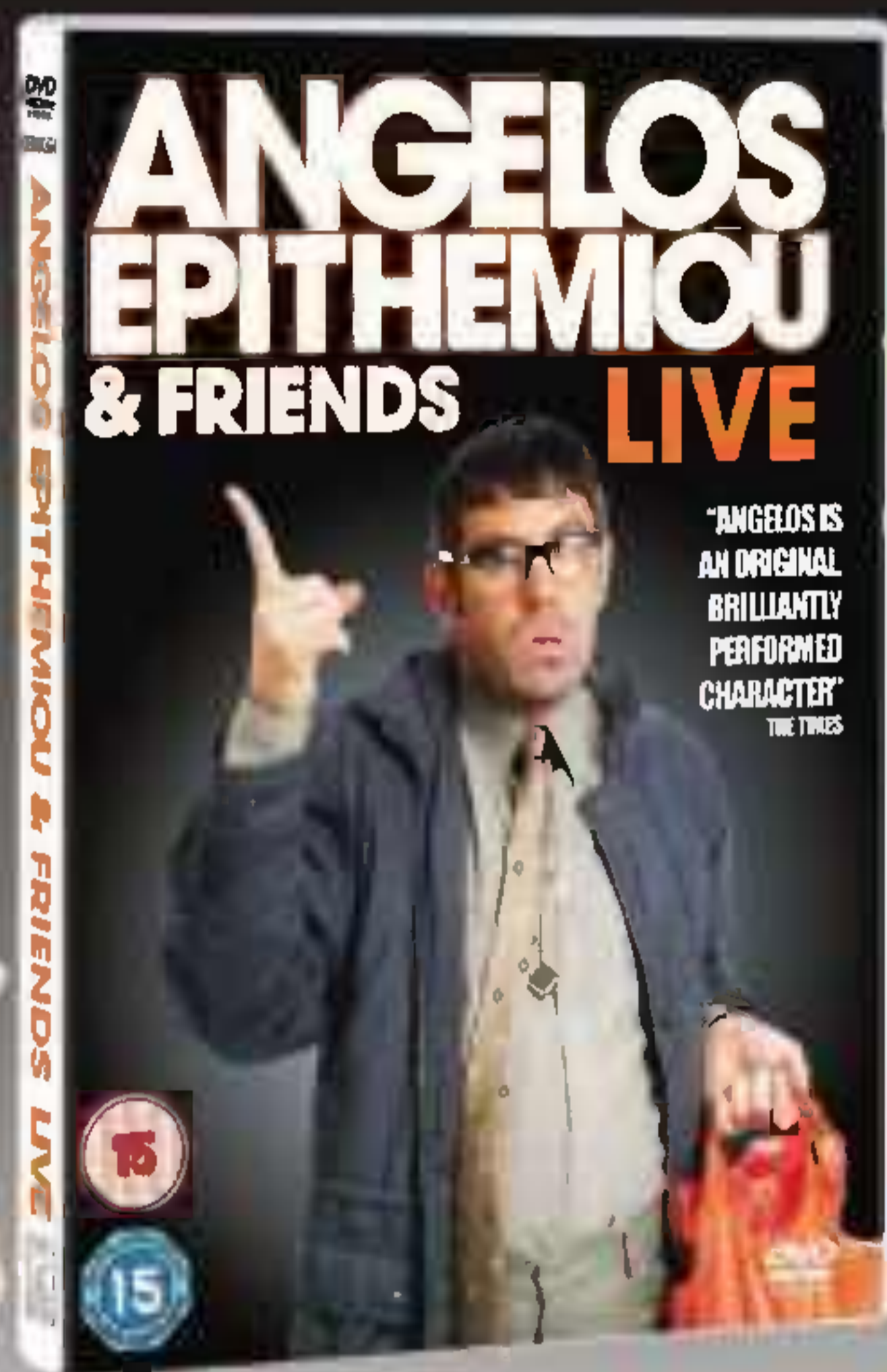
**VAMPIRE WEEKEND**  
ROSTAM'S SOLO  
PROJECTS REVEALED

"I WOULD HAVE  
SHOT GADDAFI AND  
LET SOMEONE ELSE  
FINISH HIM OFF!"

**WORLD PEACE,  
THE EXAMPLE WAY**

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