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— KANYE WEST —
MAKING
— A —
MASTERPIECE

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the most talked about
album of the year

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NME

Hello...



KANYE WEST THE conqueror. Kanye West the plonker. It says a lot about the way that Yeezy splits opinion that he's nominated as both Hero and Villain

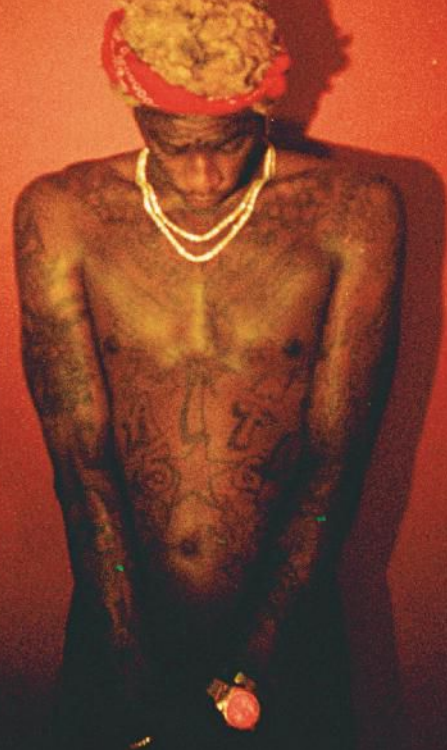
Of The Year at this week's NME Awards with Austin, Texas.

Me, I'm in the Hero camp – mainly because I think his first, second, fifth and sixth albums are utterly brilliant and partly because I like how much he gets on people's tits. I'm excited about this new record for both reasons.

My favourite Kanye thing recently was the brilliantly ludicrous theory that David Bowie's 'The Rise And Fall Of Ziggy Stardust And The Spiders From Mars' foretold the birth of Yeezus. The words 'K.West' on the cover; the opening track 'Five Years' predicting the end of the world; Kanye being born five years later. It all fits. Okay, it doesn't really, but it's a nice link from one widely recognised musical masterpiece to a man who has announced his own to the world. Don't go ch-ch-changing, KW.

MIKE WILLIAMS
Editor-in-Chief
@itsmikelike

Young Thug **p27**



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110 SOUTHWARK ST
LONDON
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TEL 020 3148 + Ext

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PEUGEOT 108

MOTION & EMOTION



PEUGEOT

AGENDA

WHAT EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT THIS WEEK

Coldplay: From this...

The Super Bowl spectacular was seen by more than 100 million viewers

(l-r): Beyoncé, Chris Martin, Bruno Mars

Chris Martin ushered in the next Summer Of Love at the Super Bowl. Next stop? Brixton and the NME Awards 2016 with Austin, Texas

LAST SUNDAY, COLDPLAY thrilled an audience of more than 100 million with their staggering Super Bowl half-time show. Chris Martin and co brought fireworks, neon flowers, Beyoncé and Bruno Mars to San Francisco's Levi's Stadium, cramming six of their songs into the 13-minute spectacular. By the end, people were trying to work out if the colour on their telly had gone funny as the crowd in the stands spelt out 'Believe in love' in rainbow placards.

So where do you go from there? Well, to Brixton – specifically to the O2 Academy Brixton on February 17, where Coldplay will close the NME Awards 2016 with Austin, Texas after collecting their well-deserved Godlike Genius award.

Missed out on tickets? Follow the ceremony live on NME.com, including Coldplay's set, plus performances from Foals, Rat Boy, The Maccabees and Bring Me The Horizon. Tune in from 8.30pm.

To this!

Coldplay bring some love to Brixton

NME
AWARDS
2016
WITH
Austin
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Beyoncé brings protest music back

1 MESSY MYA

The track opens with the voice of comedian and YouTube star Messy Mya (real name Anthony Barre), who asks, "What happened after New Orleans?". Mya was shot and killed in the city in 2010 and his murderer has not been brought to justice.

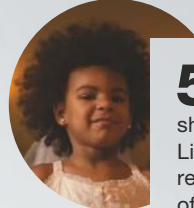
2 HURRICANE KATRINA

Filed entirely in New Orleans, the Formation video is bookended with footage of Beyoncé sitting atop a sinking New Orleans Police Department patrol car. The US government and authorities were widely criticised for not doing enough to help African-American victims of Hurricane Katrina, which devastated and flooded the poorest areas of the city in 2005.

Beyoncé's single 'Formation' – released by surprise last weekend – is a stunning celebration of black cultural identity and an anthem for the Black Lives Matter movement. Here are the key points

3 BLUE IVY

Beyoncé and Jay-Z's four-year-old daughter isn't just there to look cute. As the camera focuses on her, Beyoncé sings: *"I like my baby hair, with baby hair and afros / I like my Negro nose with Jackson Five nostrils."*



4 BOUNCE MUSIC

The video incorporates clips from *The B.E.A.T.*, a short 2012 documentary about bounce, a frenetic type of hip-hop that emerged from LGBT communities in New Orleans in the early 1990s.

5 "STOP SHOOTING US"

The graffitied words "Stop shooting us" reference the Black Lives Matter movement, formed in response to high-profile instances of black men – such as Mario Woods – being killed by US police officers. The day before the video was released, Jay-Z's Tidal streaming service donated \$1.5m to the charity. Two days after it came out, Beyoncé's guest appearance at the Super Bowl saw her backed by dancers imitating the Black Panthers, a civil rights organisation from the 1960s.

Jordan Bassett



Beyoncé's new video



Zayn Malik

One Direction's best position in the US Hot 100: Number Two. While former member Zayn's 'Pillowtalk' has gone to Number One.



Lady Gaga

The gloriously weird singer surprised the US with her national anthem at the Super Bowl – she played it totally straight.



Jessie J

The Bang Bang warbler was shot down on Twitter after claiming she's "one of the greatest" singers in America.



Quentin Tarantino

Turns out the guitar the director had smashed up in *The Hateful Eight* was priceless. Whoops!



NME AWARDS TOUR 2016 WITH Austin – LIVE MUSIC CAPITAL OF THE WORLD

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AS THE 2016 NME AWARDS TOUR with Austin, Texas rockets to a close in Birmingham tonight, leaving the UK a quivering wreck, we're giving you the chance to win a one-off souvenir. At the Manchester show on Saturday February 6, Bloc Party, Drenge and Rat Boy all took the time to sign a Fender Squire Telecaster Custom guitar. The good news: you can win it! Simply go to nme.com/win for your chance to get your hands on this prized item – then either launch your own stellar rock career or sit back and watch the Planet Hollywood bidding war kick off.



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RADIO TIMES

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Jack Garratt: he'll make you dance, whether he likes it or not



Behind the beard

With his debut album 'Phase' out next week and a BRIT award to follow, Jack Garratt's poised for superstardom. But what about his trainee-teacher past? And why does he like getting sh*t on his hands? David Renshaw finds out...

The BRIT Awards mean a lot to him, which is a relief as he's won the BRITs Critics' Choice Award

"[As a child] I'd get really excited," he says. "I remember looking at the clock and thinking, 'OK, only an hour until I get to go home and then it's the BRITs.'" Of winning the accolade, previously awarded to Ellie Goulding and James Bay, he says: "There's a lot of pressure because of people who've won it in the past. Adele and Sam Smith didn't become world-class musicians overnight just because they were given this award. They worked really hard."

He has a bee in his bonnet about people thinking he's appeared out of nowhere

"It makes me sad. [The haters] know nothing about me to assume that because I come from where I do [Little Chalfont] I'm privileged. I work hard at this. Someone's integrity shouldn't be defined by whether they wanted to kill themselves."

He's a teacher-training school dropout

"When I was 16 or 17 I started to travel into London and do acoustic shows. I was training to be a teacher because I wanted the

safety net of a job, but then I realised that I was scared of failing. I moved to London and lived a room with no windows, and locked myself away and taught myself to write songs. One night I was doing a gig and I was having a big down moment because nothing seemed to be going right. And this guy came up at the end of my set and invited me for a meeting and he ended up being the guy who's now my manager and signed me."

He's a loner (in a good way)

"I work best alone because I get to throw sh*t at walls and as I'm the only one in the room it's not embarrassing that I've got sh*t on my hands. I get nervous when I'm around other people because the ideas I have are a bit wild. I was in a couple of bands, though. I played trombone in a ska-core band when I was about 16."

You can dance to his music, but you're not really meant to...

"I hate clubs. I much prefer sitting down and having a conversation. I went to clubs when I was at uni and it always felt like a school disco. I love it when people have a good time, but I don't use four to the floor as a cheap trick to get people dancing – I use it to evoke an emotion out of them."

Last W33K IN NUMBERS



28ft

The record-breaking height of Ben Stiller's selfie stick at the London premiere of *Zoolander 2*. That's eight-and-a-half metres, for kids who can't read good.



£82m

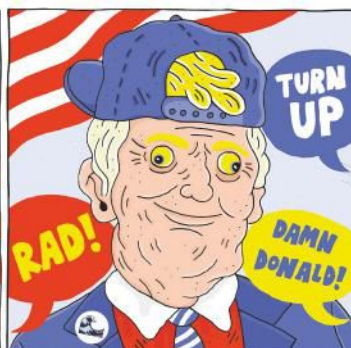
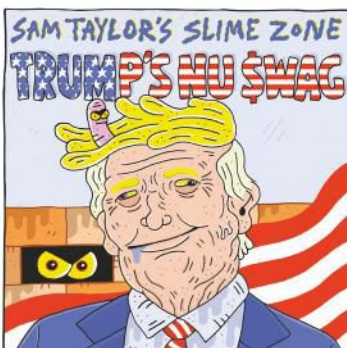
The amount that The Beatles' legacy brings into Liverpool each year, according to a new report.



\$200K

The value of an Oscars goodie bag, which includes a boob job, a walking tour of Japan and a sex toy. Knee-trembling.

DAN HARRIS, REX

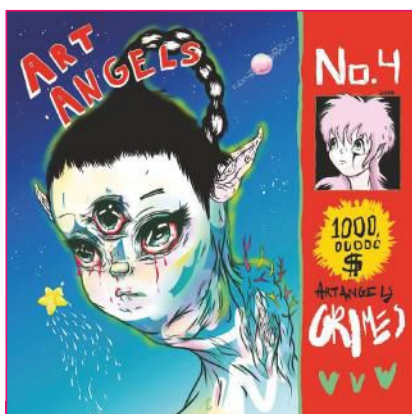




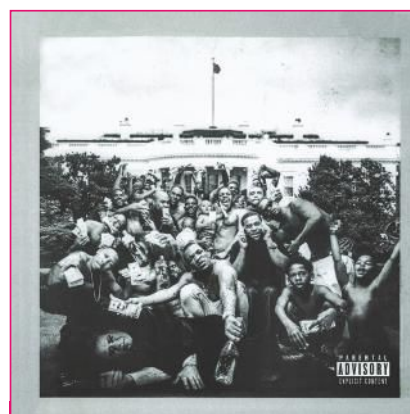
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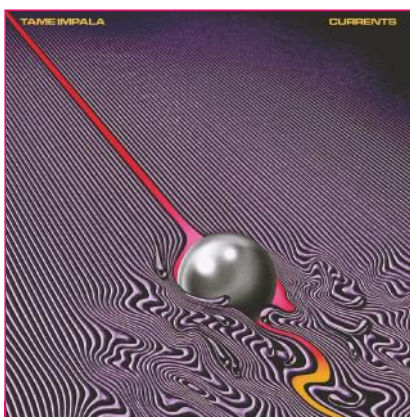
Wolf Alice
My Love Is Cool



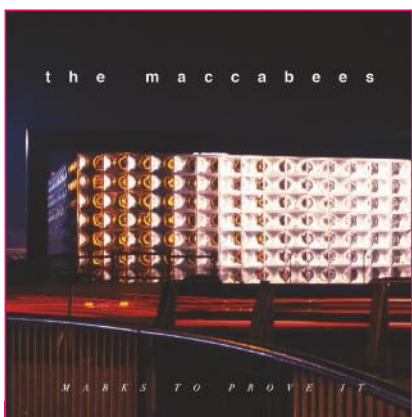
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Katherine Ryan

OFF THE TV AND IN YOUR FACE

THIS WEEK

Susan Sarandon's cleavage

PIERS MORGAN sparked the best and most confusing firestorm on Twitter last week when he made a comment about Susan Sarandon's cleavage. I'm often asked for my views on Mr Morgan; I don't know what the connection is, except maybe we're both outspoken? We both have Irish dads? I guess they ask because it's expected my answer will be that Piers Morgan is a smug, bloated, tabloid-spawning, ham-faced, nefarious, prying miscreant.

Although I do think he resembles David Cameron (he could play him in a movie or something), I've got nothing against the man. He's quite funny and he's had beef with Jeremy Clarkson. **HEAR THIS, READER:** any enemy of Jeremy Clarkson is a friend of mine.

Susan Sarandon, the BAFTA- and Academy Award-winning actress, UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador and humanitarian, attended The Screen Actors Guild Awards in LA, where she was nominated for an Outstanding Performance award for a her role in

The Secret Life Of Marilyn Monroe. But because she's a woman, that gets *Daily Mail*-ified into something like 'Desperate 69-Year-Old Mother of Three Audaciously Leaves the House With Some of Her Body Showing'. Ms Sarandon wore a white suit and under that she wore a black bra that peeked out. I've seen this look on Jennifer Aniston and I've worn it myself. It's tailored and chic! But on this occasion, the internet WAS NOT HAVING IT.

Online, men and women lashed out, one calling the display of cleavage 'RACK-DICULOUS', others deciding Ms Sarandon should know better at her age. Others sided with the actress by pointing out that a woman so accomplished should do and wear whatever the f*** she likes.

Piers Morgan threw his opinion into the didn't-ask-for-it heap and declared the outfit inappropriate on the grounds that Ms Sarandon presented the SAG 'In Memoriam' tribute to the stars Hollywood lost in the past year. He reasoned that if you wouldn't wear it to a funeral, then it was improper for this too.

The thing is, I would wear this outfit to a funeral. Because you know who cares very little about tits? Dead people. They're notoriously difficult to offend.

We are all guilty of unconscious bias and this is absolutely an example of ageism. We live in a society where a 69-year-old's pair of boobs cause more scandal than two poisonous bags of silicone stuffed into an 18-year-old's chest muscle and stitched just outside her beating heart.

Twitter responded to Mr Morgan in the most peculiar way. Women from all over the world began sending him photos of their own cleavage as... punishment? I hate to say it, but we just can't resist a selfie. Ladies, stand down! If you really want to wind up Piers Morgan, send him a pic of Jeremy Clarkson. Now there's a right tit.



"A woman so accomplished should wear whatever the f* she likes"**

PHOTO: BELLA HOWARD. STYLING: JEN MICHALSKI-BRAY. HAIR & MAKE-UP: FIONA EUSTACE. DRESS BY MIMI TRAN. BELT BY SAINT LAURENT. RINGS BY MALOCCI AND DINNY HALL & SWAROVSKI. EARRINGS BY DINNY HALL. ADDITIONAL PHOTOS: GETTY



And another thing...

HOW ARE PEOPLE STILL working with Terry Richardson? Allegations of sexual assault aside, his style of photography is as follows: turn on a big bright light, get a woman as naked as possible and shoot. This is punk rock, man! He uploads short videos of models dancing to his Vimeo channel *Terry TV*, appears in the clips and credits himself as the director. He often cameos in his own photography sessions and his vibe in those

just creeps me out. Rita Ora just did a shoot with him, appearing topless, squatting, grabbing her crotch, sucking her finger, oh, and licking Richardson's face. Then I saw pictures from a job he did with *The Weeknd*. But that dude got to keep his clothes on...



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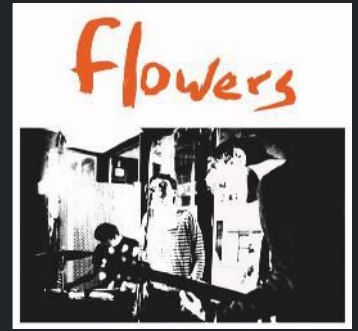
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THE WAVE PICTURES A SEASON IN HULL

WYMESWOLD RECORDS LP

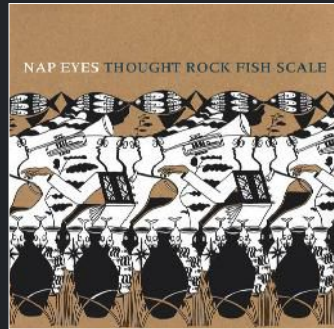
A one-microphone happy birthday recording. It's how Bill Monroe and His Bluegrass Boys did it, after all.
Mysterious and lively, and very romantic too.



PETE AVES SEE HOW

STRESS TESTED LP / CD

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NAP EYES THOUGHT ROCK FISH SCALE

PARADISE OF BACHELORS LP / CD

Nap Eyes' quietly contemplative sophomore record refines and elaborates their debut, offering an airier, more spacious second chapter of exquisite, literate guitar pop songs.



BERT JANSCH AVOCET

EARTH RECORDS LP / CD

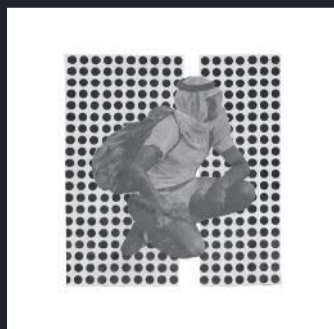
Special vinyl edition contains six high-quality lithograph art prints representing each of the birds from the album and deluxe 'bookback' CD includes 20 page book.



ED TULLETT FIANCÉ

MONOTREME CD

Richly epic album from UK electronic artist, with skittering R&B beats, dream pop keyboards, towering falsetto harmonies... Tullett creates often huge, often hushed, gloomy landscapes, dripping in glistening beauty.



ULRIKA SPACEK THE ALBUM PARANOIA

TOUGH LOVE LP / CD

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THIS WEEK'S OBJECTS OF DESIRE



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Raw-some

Treat your paramour to a delicious and nutritious raw chocolate or raw fudge bar. From **£2.25** rawchocpie.co.uk



Sleep sound

Pay tribute to the saucy Stones song with this 'Let's Spend the Night Together' nightshirt. **£67** wildfox.com



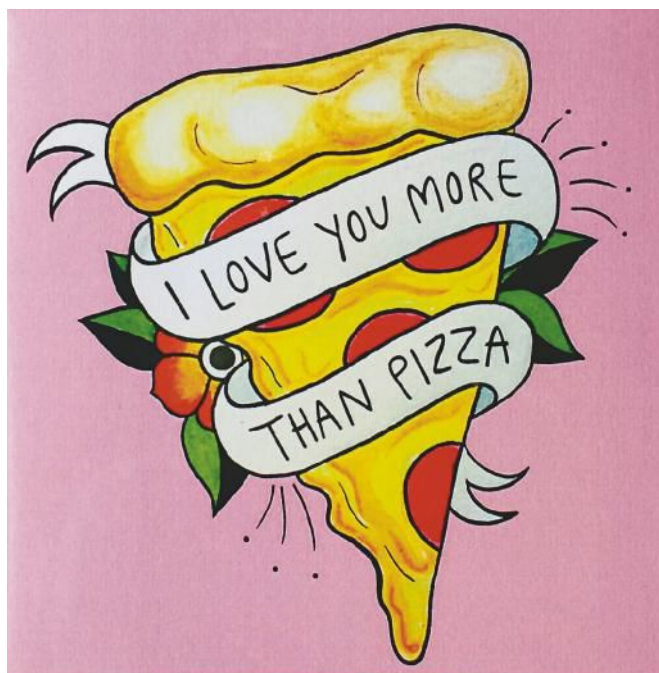
Booty lover

Kick singledom into touch with a pair of DMs. We heart the heart-festooned Pascal boot. **£110** drmartens.com



Lip service

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Heartfelt fashion

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The mpg figures quoted are sourced from official EU-regulated test results obtained through laboratory testing. These are provided for comparability purposes only and may not reflect your actual driving results.

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What's ON your Headphones?

THIS WEEK

Leeds



"The Garden Gate is an old-school boozer and it's great for a decent pint"

Alexander Rennie >
42, software engineer

Listening to:
HINDS
Garden

"I really dig the 1960s girl group, lo-fi vibe. It's a great way to start an album."

Wearing: TK Maxx coat and scarf, vintage hat and gloves, Lennon glasses, Topman corduroy trousers.

Best thing about Leeds:
"The Garden Gate – it's an old-school boozer and a great place for a decent pint."

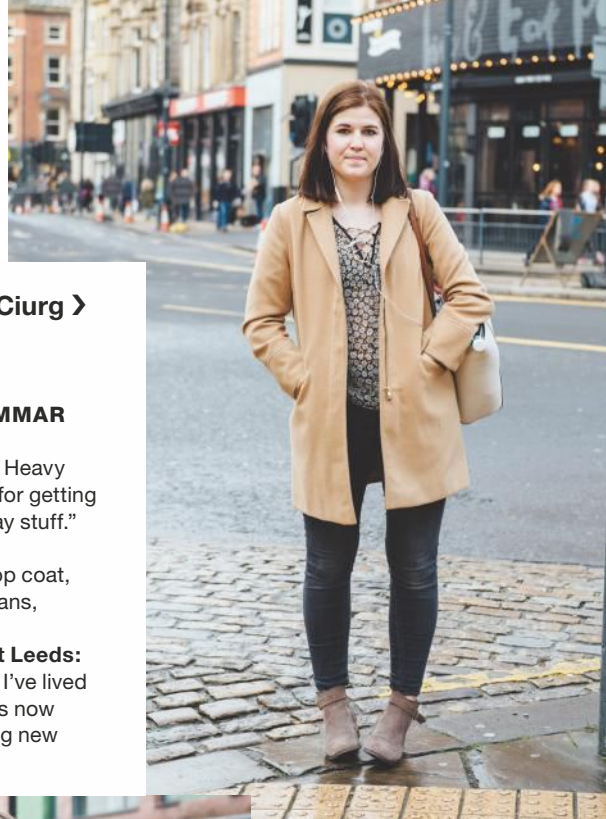
Charlotte McCiurg >
22, NHS worker

Listening to:
LONDON GRAMMAR
Flickers

"It's quite chilled. Heavy music isn't great for getting on with day-to-day stuff."

Wearing: Topshop coat, Zara top, H&M jeans, TK Maxx shoes.

Best thing about Leeds:
"The food scene. I've lived here for four years now and I'm still finding new places to go."



< Sonny Harrison
29, PhD student

Listening to:
MASTODON
Hearts Alive

"It's quite proggy – it's winding, twisting and great to listen to while you're walking because it keeps your interest."

Wearing: Zara jacket, Next shirt, Pulp jeans, Dr Martens boots.

Best thing about Leeds:
"The BrewDog bar. It's massive and they have tons of beer. They also have loads of cool 1950s American bar games."



Mike Denham >
28, music teacher

Listening to:
TOOTS AND THE MAYTALS
Never You Change

"I saw them live at The Cockpit. They were old, but still good."

Wearing: Barbour jacket, vintage shirt, jumper from a charity shop, H&M jeans, Dr Martens shoes.

Best thing about Leeds:
"The Brudenell Social Club is probably the best music venue in the city."



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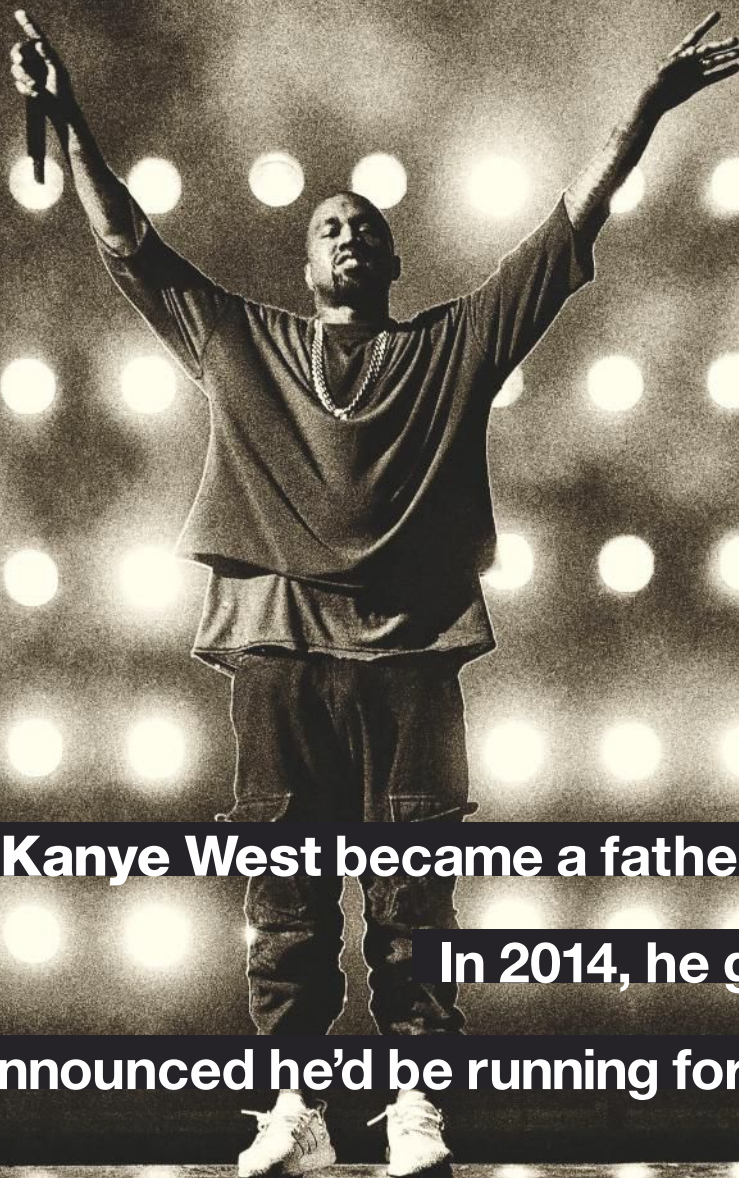
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MAKING A MASTERPIECE



In 2013, Kanye West became a father.

In 2014, he got married.

In 2015, he announced he'd be running for President.

**Now he's calling his brand-new LP
"the greatest album of all time".**

Larry Bartleet asks how he got there



JUNE 15, 2013

Kanye's fiancée Kim Kardashian gives birth to their first child, daughter **North West**, three days before the release of the 36-year-old's sixth album '**Yeezus**'. It's his best yet – a brutal, revelatory and self-contradictory game-changer that debuts at Number One on the iTunes chart in 31 countries.

JULY 19, 2013

Angered by the presence of the press, **Kanye grabs** a paparazzo's camera at LAX. The criminal charges include 250 hours of community service. The following month, in a **televised interview** with Kim's mother Kris Jenner, he suggests fatherhood has changed his outlook. "With the press, it's almost like an agenda to write me into a certain type of story... I have two people to live for – a family to live for. A whole world to live for."

OCT 30, 2013

After six dates, Kanye's 'Yeezus' tour – which includes a 50-foot **mountain-turned-volcano**, 'snow' flurries, troupes of masked dancers and a 'white Jesus' – is postponed after a truck carrying its 60-foot LED screen and custom-made video truss crashes. A statement says, "Kanye West will not compromise on bringing the show, as it was originally envisioned and designed, to his fans." The tour later resumes in mid-November.

NOV 24, 2013

Kanye reveals that he's already started work on his seventh album, hoping to put it out before summer 2014 – a deadline that will eventually be pushed back by more than 18 months. In that time Evian Christ, Malik Yusef, Travis Scott and P Diddy will claim involvement in its production.

DEC 4, 2013

At Miami's **Art Basel** fair, Kanye discusses taking part in national art competitions aged 14. "Sometimes I actually forget that," he says. "Except for when I tour and I look back at the stage and say, 'Wait a second, I forgot this was the whole trick I pulled on everyone to make them think I was a rapper, a musician or celebrity when the entire time it's all been a giant art project.'" He adds that he plans his seventh album to be as refined as 'Yeezus', with only eight songs. The final tracklisting eventually has 11 songs, divided into three 'acts'.



MAR 25, 2014

Kanye announces, then almost immediately cancels, a European tour and later postpones his Australian tour from May to September – saying in a statement that the decision has been made to allow him to finish album seven, which is still “scheduled for a 2014 release”.

MAY 24, 2014

Kanye marries Kim Kardashian in Florence, Italy, almost a year after the birth of North West. The week-long proceedings include a pre-wedding party in Versailles, France, with a fairytale-style horse and carriage and a photobooth.

JULY 20, 2014

Kanye reveals that his priorities are constantly shifting between his family, his fashion line with Adidas and his music. Discussing the new album with GQ, he says, “I was thinking it could somehow come out in June, like ‘Yeezus’, and just kill it for the summer. But then I’m like, I have to work on Adidas and be with my child.”

DEC 31, 2014

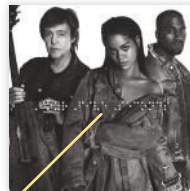
‘Only One’, Kanye’s collaboration with **Paul McCartney**, is released – a message to North West from the perspective of Kanye’s late mother Donda. It’s Kanye’s first new song in 18 months.

JAN 24, 2015

‘**FourFiveSeconds**’, a guitar-led collaboration with Paul McCartney and Rihanna, is released as a single. Kanye announces he is executive-producing Rihanna’s eighth album, which he says ‘FourFiveSeconds’ will feature on. A week before the release of Rihanna’s album ‘Anti’ on January 28 2016, she tells a fan this is no longer the case, saying, “We’re both working on our own projects right now!” Over the next year, Kanye will be kept busy with his fashion line, his growing family and, of course, his own album.

FEB 12, 2015

At New York Fashion Week for the launch of his first footwear and clothing line with Adidas – **Yeezy Season 1** – Kanye debuts ‘Wolves’, a yowling Sia/Vic Mensa collaboration that will go on to feature on his seventh album. On September 16, at Yeezy Season 2, he reveals another album track – the house-influenced ‘Fade’.



FEB 20, 2015

The album is “80 per cent done”, Kanye says on US radio station Power 105.1. Its contents, he says, are “bars, songs, cookout music that just feels good. My last album was a protest to music... this album is embracing the music.” Just over a week later, Kanye tweets what ends up being the first of four album titles for his seventh record – ‘**So Help Me God**’.

FEB 25, 2015

At the **BRIT Awards**, Kanye debuts stand-alone single ‘All Day’ and puts the UK’s grime scene in the spotlight, surrounded by a 40-strong crew of British MCs including Stormzy, Skepta and Novelist. Writing for NME, Wiley praises his patronage: “Kanye came in and helped my scene make it.” The following week, while he’s in London, rumours circulate that Kanye has spent studio time with “King of Grime” Skepta, who he referred to by name during his BRITs performance.

MARCH 15, 2015

Kendrick Lamar’s third studio album ‘To Pimp A Butterfly’ is released – an inventive examination of race and class in America. The next day **Kanye tweets**, “KENDRICK IS AN INSPIRATION. THANK YOU FOR THE VIBRATIONS AND THE SPIRIT. YOUR MEANING, MESSAGE AND EXECUTION ARE GIFTS TO THE WORLD.” Some interpret this tweet as a sign that Kanye is rethinking the release date of ‘So Help Me God’.

APRIL 25, 2015

Caitlyn Jenner, who was married to Kim Kardashian’s mother Kris from 1991 to 2015, comes out publicly as transgender. She reveals how instrumental Kanye was in helping her stepdaughter Kim accept the transition. Kanye later calls the event “one of the strongest things that have happened in our existence as human beings”.

MAY 3, 2015

Kanye alters the title of his seventh album to ‘SWISH’. “I might change it again,” he tweets, “but that’s the name now”. Almost eight months later, he renames it ‘Waves’ a fortnight before its official release – but when wife Kim conducts a Twitter poll in February 2016 about the potential album names, first title ‘So Help Me God’ comes out on top, with 46 per cent of nearly 500,000 votes.



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JUNE 27, 2015

Kanye headlines **Glastonbury**. Just five days after the announcement in March, 100,000 people signed a petition to remove him from the bill. The set is big and bold and the only props are a briefly-used **crane** booth and a stage-wide lighting rig that moves around as he performs. Mid-set, he's interrupted by prankster Lee Nelson.

AUGUST 31, 2015

Six years after interrupting Taylor Swift's MTV VMAs acceptance speech, Kanye is presented with the **Video Vanguard Award** by **Swift**. He says, "I have decided in 2020 to run for President." Hillary Clinton later says she wouldn't rule out his being her Vice President.

DEC 13, 2015

Just over a week after the birth of his son Saint West, Kanye tweets, "I'm asking everyone **DON'T ASK ME FOR ANYTHING TILL AFTER I'M FINISHED WITH MY ALBUM**. I'm finishing my album and my next collection." Two months later he'll debut the album, still known as 'SWISH', at the launch of his new fashion collection, Yeezy Season 3.

JAN 8, 2016

Kim Kardashian announces the return of Kanye's weekly music giveaway G.O.O.D. Fridays. Only two tracks are released this way: 'Real Friends', on January 8, and 'No More Parties In LA' on January 18. The latter is delayed because Kanye has to attend a fitting for his fashion line in Italy, Kim says in a series of tweets: "He flew [producer] Noah [Goldstein] out with him so he could finish 'No More Parties In La' & wrote 90 bars on the plane there!!!"

JAN 25, 2016

Kanye reveals the **tracklisting** for 'SWISH', and a day later changes the title to 'Waves'. He tweets, "So happy to be finished with the best album of all time. This is not album of the year. This is album of the life." Rapper Wiz Khalifa accuses Kanye of nabbing Max B's signature term 'wavy'. Kanye then hits out at Wiz and his ex Amber Rose, mother of Wiz's son. Rose responds with allegations about Kanye's sexual preferences, using the hashtag #FingersInTheBootyAssBitch; Kanye denies it. A few days later, Kim and Amber Rose **post a shared selfie**. Kanye says he's made up with Wiz, tweeting "Great convo. All positive".



FEB 2, 2016

Kanye tweets to mitigate his "album of the life" claim, acknowledging the giants whose shoulders he stands on. "Out of respect for Q-Tip, Puff, Hov, Lauren, Pharcyde, Mary, Stevie, Michael, Hendrix, James, Pete Rock, Pac, Marvin," he writes, "this new album is ONE of the greatest albums not the greatest just one of... So many musicians touch my life and made me who I am. I want to make something great to honor my idols."

FEB 4, 2016

Enthusiasm about his new album, Kanye writes on Twitter, "It was always a dream to have a listening party at Madison Square Garden. It was always a dream to show my collection at Madison Square Garden. On February 11th these dreams come true." Three days later, on February 7, he changes his mind about the record's name *again*, tweeting, "There may be a new secret album title." The next day he tweets a clue – 'T.L.O.P.'

FEB 11, 2016

Kanye's seventh album is debuted at the Yeezy Season 3 launch with Adidas. But this is after *NME* goes to press and if there's one thing we know about Kanye, it's that he's unpredictable. He could have decided to scrap the whole project. He could have snatched thunder back from Beyoncé by putting it out a day early. For all we know, it could have been retitled 'Fingers'. Whatever the case, it won't be boring. **NME**

West is best?

What famous people say about Kanye:

Mumford & Sons' Marcus Mumford:

"I think Kanye is sick. He's the only rock star left."

Justin Bieber: "You get him in a room and he starts talking and ranting. He's been through a lot of stuff and he's not just talking to talk, he has something to say from his heart. I just sit and listen because he's really smart."

Caitlyn Jenner: "I've been impressed by his open-mindedness. I think he's helped Kim to come to terms with all this."

Kim Kardashian: "Even if there's a project that I'm not working on with Kanye, I always get his input. I value his opinion. There's no one more creative in my eyes."

David Crosby: "He can't write, sing, or play at all. He is an egomaniac. He is dumb as a post."

Blur's Graham Coxon:

"He's a f***ing idiot, isn't he? Does he even make his own albums?"

Barack Obama:

"Kanye's music is outstanding. I've got a lot of his stuff on my iPad."

Kendrick Lamar:

"I'm yelling Mr Kanye West for President."

Foals' Yannis Philippakis:

"I don't think he's the greatest living rock star, but I don't know who is, so maybe he could be. He's definitely a damn sight more exciting than a lot of people."

Rihanna: "Who wouldn't vote for Kanye? I'm really, really elated with his [MTV VMAs] speech."

Kanye West:

"I've reached a moment in life where my *Truman Show* boat has hit the wall."

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Say it with song

Making a Valentine's mix for your loved one? One of these tracks should help you say what you really feel...

DAVID BOWIE

Heroes 1977

What you're trying to say: You and me are totally *epic*.

What it does: Inspired by seeing his producer Tony Visconti snogging a backing vocalist by the Berlin Wall, Bowie's paean to the redemptive qualities of romantic love is earth-shatteringly self-important.

Gooiest moment: Bowie's closing vocal roars. Best enjoyed while standing through a sunroof.



YEAH YEAH YEAHS

Maps 2003

What you're trying to say: I miss you *crying face*

What it does: It's the ultimate ode to the long-distance yearn. Singer Karen O cried real tears in the video because her boyfriend failed to show up to the shoot and she was due to set off on tour straight after.

Gooiest moment: "Wait... they don't love you like I love you"



SINÉAD O'CONNOR

Nothing Compares 2 U 1990

What you're trying to say: I am stuck on the first stage of grief – denial.

What it does: Written by Prince, Sinéad's emotive rendering of the song is arguably the most moving portrait of romantic desolation ever to reduce the charts to a sobbing wreck.

Gooiest moment: "All the flowers that you planted, mama, in the back yard / All died when you went away"



ADELE

Someone Like You 2011

What you're trying to say: I have achieved stage five of grief – acceptance.

What it does: The ultimate break-up track, Adele's torch song offers the comforting thought that you can just replace a much-missed partner with a similar one.

Gooiest moment: "I'd hoped you'd see my face and that you'd be reminded / That for me it isn't over". I hope you're reading this, Jessica.

THE BEACH BOYS

God Only Knows 1966

What you're trying to say: It's U+ME 4EVA

What it does: A clever ruse. "I may not always love you" sings Brian Wilson, while his wife presumably spat her coffee across the room, "but as long as there are stars above you, you never need to doubt it". Brian, you angel-voiced tease, you.

Gooiest moment: When all eight vocals overlap majestically at the end.



THE WHITE STRIPES

Fell In Love With A Girl 2001

What you're trying to say: I'm so terrifically excited about our new love I might wet myself.

What it does: This one captures the euphoric rush of teenage hormones in a giddy garage rock belter, like a shot of E numbers to the heart.

Gooiest moment: Which lovestruck fool has never thought "the two sides of my brain need to have a meeting"?



ARCTIC MONKEYS

Mardy Bum 2006

What you're trying to say:

I do still love you, but...

What it does: Mid-row, Alex Turner remembers the golden early days before his girlfriend's face of an angel turned to a permanent face of thunder.

Gooiest moment:

"Remember cuddles in kitchen / Yeah, to get things off the ground"

LANA DEL REY

Video Games 2010

What you're trying to say:

You pay more attention to the man from GTA4 than you do to me.

What it does: Del Rey's debut – the buzziest internet video of its time thanks to its retro movie clips and Olympic-level pouting – is a lushly orchestrated tale of being taken for granted.

Gooiest moment: The demurely crooned line "Heaven is a place on earth with you".

QUEENS OF THE STONE AGE

Make It Wit Chu 2007

What you're trying to say:

I love you, let's do it.

What it does: A song about undivided devotion – like all good love songs – but with a rock'n'roll twist, this is by far the most thrillingly sleazy entry on the list.

Gooiest moment: Josh Homme's falsetto reach in the chorus is a heart-melter.

JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE

Mirrors 2013

What you're trying to say:

I'm in it for the long haul.

What it does: Part emo power ballad, part funk-tinged R&B track, this eight-minute love fest was inspired by

the marriage of Timberlake's own grandparents.

Gooiest

moment: After the strings, 'Mirrors' breaks into repetitive rap-come-chanting of the ultimate declaration "You are the love of my life".

THE CURE

Friday I'm Love 1992

What you're trying to say:

Got any plans for the weekend?

What it does: Captures that light-on-your-feet feeling of being in love. Gloom-pop king Robert Smith was as surprised as we were that he'd written a sunny pop song. "[I thought] 'I can't possibly have come up with this,'" he has said.

Gooiest moment: The rather stalkery line "It's such a gorgeous sight to see you eat in the middle of the night".

THE SMITHS

There Is A Light That Never Goes Out 1986

What you're trying to say: I am a passionate and dramatic person and I would probably die for you. Maybe.

What it does: Indie's most romantic statement had Morrissey preferring to be killed in a variety of roadside pile-ups with his lover rather than ever have to get dropped off for his tea, alone.

Gooiest moment: "If a double-decker bus crashes into us / To die by your side is such a heavenly way to die"

LCD SOUNDSYSTEM

Someone Great 2007

What you're trying to say:

Look, we can still be friends, yeah. Yeah?

What it does: Even though this is a break-up song, it sounds like a couple of synthesizers having a meet-cute in a Williamsburg basement and making little Casios.

Gooiest moment: "We're safe for the moment, saved for the moment"

BRIGHT EYES

First Day Of My Life 2005

What you're trying to say:

You complete me.

What it does: Quite a lovely sentiment to this acoustic ditty: the first day you met that special someone, that was when your life truly began. Literally true only for mayflies.

Gooiest moment: "Yours is the first face that I saw / I think I was blind before I met you"

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THE NAT IN THE HAT

Nathaniel Rateliff swapped winsome singer-songwriter-ing for rabble-rousing boogie woogie-ing with his band The Night Sweats – and won. He tells Leonie Cooper the need-to-know stuff

ON THEIR EXPLOSIVE LIVE SHOWS

"Live performance is how someone who's fallen in love with an album really gets to take it in. I aim to have the energy of Otis Redding – which is hard, because I'm not in very good shape – mixed with a southern, sort of twangy, sound. You need energy and the right amount of drinks, which is just a couple. Mine's a bourbon and water."

ON HIS FORMER CAREER AS A FOLK SINGER-SONGWRITER

"I was making Leonard Cohen and Townes Van Zandt-type stuff and upbeat acoustic Americana. Back then I'd just be standing still at shows, but I danced at the first Night Sweats show and immediately people went crazy. Who knew?"

ON THE BOOZE-INDUCED BREAKDOWN THAT INSPIRED BREAKTHROUGH SONG 'SOB'

"I was in London, staying at a friend's house. I'd screwed up a bunch of stuff back home because I'd been drinking too much. So I quit, but I went into withdrawal and had delirium tremens."

ON BRITNEY SPEARS USING THEIR SINGLE 'SOB' TO SOUNDTRACK AN INSTAGRAM STRIPTEASE

"She tagged me in it! I was like, what?! I don't know why she used our song – but I appreciate it! I thought it'd be fun to respond, so I got a bra and a blonde wig and did some slo-mo dances as well."

ON RELEASING THEIR DEBUT ON LEGENDARY LABEL STAX

"My label Concord took over the catalogue for Stax, so we asked if we could put the record out through them and we got it to work. Stax and Motown were home to soul and R&B. Stax had Otis Redding, Sam & Dave and Isaac Hayes – and now us."

ON WONDERING WHO THE LIBERTINES WERE AT LATER... WITH JOOLS HOLLAND

"I thought, 'Those guys seem like real f*ck-ups for a new band!' Someone then had to tell me that they'd been around for a while. One of the singers just came out of their dressing room and mumbled something I couldn't understand in my ear. I don't know if they smoked heroin in their green room... The Weeknd was also on and said, 'F*cking great song,' to us."

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RADAR

MUSIC, FILM, TV, GAMES AND MORE – THIS WEEK'S ESSENTIAL NEW RELEASES

Best NEW tracks

And when to drop them

Dark metal:
Deftones

BEST FOR A BLACK MOOD

DEFTONES

Prayers/Triangles

The US metal heroes are back with a supercharged track that swings between melodic verses and gut-wrenching choruses.

BEST FOR DINING BY CANDLELIGHT

CAT'S EYES

Chameleon Queen

Real life couple Faris Badwan (frontman of The Horrors) and Rachel Zeffira (operatic solo star) channel their inner Serge Gainsbourg and Jane Birkin on this sultry, Parisian-flavoured beauty.

BEST FOR 2016 FESTIVAL SINGALONGS

SPRING KING

Rectifier

The most promising UK indie band of 2016 have just signed a major record deal and released this, their invigoratingly full-on new single. It's set them up for a monster year.

BEST FOR BOUNCING BACK

YOUNG THUG

F Cancer (Boosie)

Released as a tribute to fellow rapper Boosie Badazz, who recently recovered from surgery for cancer, 'F Cancer (Boosie)' is a gloriously unlikely feelgood anthem. The video, featuring him in pink scrubs, is pretty incredible, too.

BEST FOR POGOING LIKE IT'S 1977

CROWS

Whisper

There's a hint of Sex Pistols' guitar maniac Steve Jones in the serrated licks of 'Whisper', by Wolf Alice's best mates Crows. If you're a fan of Ellie Rowsell and co, it's worth checking them out.



BEST FOR SHOWING 'EM WHO'S BOSS

BEYONCÉ

Formation

This surprise-release, politically charged, visually striking return is fierier than anything Beyoncé's ever done and melodically it's right up there with her best. Queen Bey still reigns.

BEST FOR DOING THE HOOVERING

PARQUET COURTS

Dust

Evidently the Brooklyn guitar noodlers had everyone fooled with their last release, the impenetrable 'Monastic Listening'. On 'Dust', taken from new album 'Human Performance', they sound chirpy, melodic and utterly vital once more. And it's literally about dust.

BEST FOR SCARING THE NEIGHBOURS

LET'S EAT GRANDMA

Deep Six Textbook

These Norwich teens are like the evil twins from *The Simpsons* – a little bit witchy, a bit mischievous and totally badass. Musically we're getting Lorde vibes, which is no bad thing either.

BEST FOR SLACKING OFF

**STEPHEN MALKMUS
& THE JICKS**

Come As You Are

Recorded last June at a festival in Portland, Pavement man Malkmus's just-unearthed rendition of the Nirvana classic has a sad, beat-up air about it. It's touching.

BEST FOR SOCKING IT TO THE MAN

SHEER MAG

Can't Stop Fighting

You wait ages for a decent political song and two come along at once. 'Can't Stop Fighting' is Philly punks Sheer Mag tackling everything from hometown troubles to Mexican maquiladora murders. Essential listening.



For more new music,
go to NME.com

ALBUM
OF THE
WEEK

New York City rocks

The badass trio whose riff-heavy sound fuses Led Zeppelin, The Cure and Tame Impala

SUNFLOWER BEAN

Human Ceremony



INDIE GLAM HAIR

ON FIRST LOOK AT Sunflower Bean, you might think Bob Dylan had dropped in on Debbie Harry and formed a band with Frank Zappa. As awesome as that sounds, this New York trio are actually better. And on their debut album 'Human Ceremony', they fuse Led Zeppelin's raunchy riffs with the blissful mid-80s indie of Felt, the best bits of 80s alt-pop (The Cure) and krautrock (Neu!) and, in front-duo Julia Cumming and Nick Kivlen, have the kind of boy-girl chemistry last seen in The White Stripes.

But that's not all. When Kivlen's crunchy fretwork is set against Cumming's fragile croon

on gambolling rocker 'Come On' we're introduced to the band's love of a dramatic mood change. When the pair swap roles on the shimmering Haimy 'Easier Said' – which comes with a chorus

tailor-made for festival season – they take us to a place of chilled-out pop bliss.

Elsewhere, they're as adept at whipping out rasping Marc Bolan vocals (Kivlen is obviously a fan) on

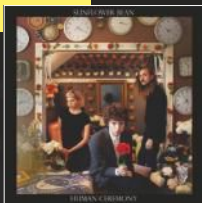
brooding psych-jam 'Space Exploration Disaster', ripping into stage-crumbling garage rock ('This

Kinda Feeling'), or settling into the off-kilter harmonies of '2013'.

They're quite something, and not just a two-person show. Drummer Jacob Faber is the key to keeping the whole thing together and his taut snare work is what keeps the trio from floating off into the stratosphere, especially when Kivlen decides it's time for a guitar wig-out, as on 'Creation Myth'.

Yet despite such talent, the three twenty-somethings from Brooklyn lack confidence. "What do you do when you're stuck between days, and your days can't keep up with your days?" sings Cumming over Kivlen's jangly ode to lazy teen life 'I Was Home'. Later they're stressing over the fleeting nature of youth on 'Wall Watcher' – a tense, restless track full of anxious lines like "Where did the time go? / It gets faster as we go".

It's exciting that they don't know how good they are. It's even more exciting how much more they have to give. **Alex Flood**



FOR FANS OF



THE CURE



LED ZEPPELIN

Sunflower Bean:
Nick Kivlen,
Julia Cumming and
Jacob Faber

Time to bloom

Indie-poppers Flowers are equal parts blissed out and moody

FLOWERS

Everybody's Dying To Meet You



INDIE-POP SUICIDE BEES

WHEN MOLLY Rankin of Canadian band Alvays opened her cherubic gullet in 2014, entreated Archie to take her briskly up the aisle and wafted gently to the top of the US college charts like dandelion spores floating over a swamp of matted beards, she opened the window to a fresh gust of fragile, romantic indie pop smelling of C86, Sarah Records, chunky knitwear, hair slides and The Cardigans. It's a heady blast of fresh pop air to some, the stench of a crumbling sewage works to others, but among the first on the breeze come London's Flowers, musical kin to Allo Darlin', The Pains Of Being Pure At Heart and the pop end of nu gaze. Their Bernard Butler-produced 2013 debut 'Do What You Want To, It's What You Should Do', not having Emeli Sandé on it, drifted under the

radar, but now is undoubtedly their time to bloom.

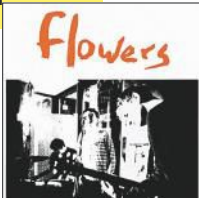
To stretch the obvious metaphor further, if Rachel Kennedy's gossamer voice – recalling Elizabeth Fraser of

The Cocteau Twins, Hazel Wilde of Lanterns On The Lake and the future wife that Belle And Sebastian fans hear in their dreams – sounds soft as a petal, guitarist Sam

Ayres adds grungy thorns and there's enough pure melodic nectar in the 10 songs on second album 'Everybody's Dying To Meet You' to single-handedly save the bees. At its most cute, on the sublime 'Intrusive Thoughts', it's a gauzy roll in summer hay, but when the guitars start to scowl it quickly turns from fey to feral. 'Tammy'

combines the feedback showtunes of Magnetic Fields' 'Distortion' with touches of early Breeders. 'How Do You Do' mingles the gnarled beauty of The Wedding Present and My Bloody Valentine to both savage and saccharine effect. Ayres goes at 'Russian Doll' and first single 'Pull My Arm' like Twitter at a bus racist.

As with so many albums of rough-edged delicacy, it's built on deep-seated discontent and self-esteem issues. *"How terrible am I to wish upon my senseless tragedy? But I can't help my awful mind,"* Kennedy sings on 'Intrusive Thoughts', while the Lemonheady 'My Only Friend' refers to herself and 'Bitter Pill' to the bottleful she's considering necking down on the train tracks. Best appreciate Flowers before their garlands turn to wreaths. **Mark Beaumont**



Flowers: Rachel Kennedy, Jordan Hockley and Sam Ayres

RADAR

Also out this week



KULA SHAKER K 2.0

★★☆☆☆

'K 2.0' features

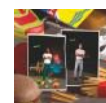
cover art of an eight-armed deity and kicks off with a song titled 'Infinite Sun' in which singer Crispian Mills wobbles on about flying "like an eagle". It falls short of the sense of spiritual wonder to which they aspire.



MAVIS STAPLES Livin' On A High Note

★★★★☆

The R&B legend hires songwriters including Nick Cave, Justin Vernon and Aloe Blacc for a groove-heavy and strikingly happy 14th album. If you dig Staples' historical commentary, tuck into that back catalogue.



EL GUINCHO Hiperasia

★★☆☆☆

Once signed to

Young Turks, home to FKA Twigs and Jamie xx, El Guincho's star has faded of late. This underwhelming fourth album (released by Everlasting) sees Pablo Díaz-Reixa swap tropical beats for a grating take on dancehall.



THE WAVE PICTURES A Season In Hull

★★★★☆

Recorded live, acoustic, on one microphone in one day (singer Dave Tattersall's birthday), this 15th Wave Pictures album bristles with charming indie-folk, country and blues intimacy, even on a Gorky's-esque small town lament called 'Thin Lizzy Live And Dangerous'.

Read the full reviews of these and many more albums on NME.com

Dead fun

It's not quite the superhero film revolution we were promised, but it sure as hell is entertaining

DEADPOOL

15 Ryan Reynolds, Ed Skrein, Morena Baccarin, TJ Miller



MARVEL SUPERHEROES RUDE

WE'RE SUPPOSED TO think that *Deadpool* isn't like other superhero films featuring a popular character from Marvel comic books. That's the message pummelled home by its witty and inventive marketing campaign and Ryan Reynolds' recent revelation that it took 11 years to get this film made. According to the actor, Twentieth Century Fox honchos were only persuaded to give the film the green light after test footage leaked and fans responded with feverish anticipation.

In truth, *Deadpool* doesn't really revolutionise the superhero movie, but it could be risqué and brazen enough to give the genre a shot in the arm. The plot follows Reynolds' special forces operative turned mercenary Wade Wilson as he's diagnosed with terminal cancer shortly after falling for Vanessa (*Homeland*'s Morena Baccarin), a fellow badass mercenary who can match him quip for quip. Petrified of death, Wilson agrees to subject himself to an experimental regenerative mutation treatment performed by a sadistic mutant called Ajax (*Game Of Thrones*' Ed Skrein). As promised, the treatment rids him of cancer and gives him superpowers, but Wilson is left hideously disfigured. When he reveals his ravaged face to best mate Weasel (*Silicon Valley*'s TJ Miller), his friend tells him drily: "You are haunting. You look like an avocado had sex with an older avocado."



Ryan Reynolds plays 'super-antihero' Deadpool

Events take a fairly predictable course. Wilson fears Vanessa won't find him attractive any more, so he reinvents himself as a masked antihero called Deadpool as he tracks down Ajax, the only person who can reverse his deformities.

The film's action sequences aren't as thrillingly violent as you might expect, but its sense of fun is definitely infectious. Director Tim Miller keeps the pace brisk as Reynolds, clearly having a blast, delivers an endless succession of meta references, knowing in-jokes and super-crude innuendo, often breaking the fourth wall. "I'm touching myself tonight," he winks at us after taking out a series of adversaries. Deadpool's wise-cracking charisma comes at the expense of other characters, some of whom are thinly drawn, but this is probably a price worth paying. *Deadpool* is a stylishly salty antidote to bloated recent superhero movies like last year's *Avengers: Age Of Ultron*.
Nick Levine

STRANGE & TRUE

Deadpool won't be shown in China as censors realised by the time they'd edited out all the violence, profanity and sex, there'd be no story left.

MINI
INTERVIEW



Ryan Reynolds & TJ Miller

The stars of *Deadpool* discuss warped creativity

How does this compare to other superhero films?

Ryan: "I'm not sure there's any comparison between *Deadpool* and any comic book movie ever made."

TJ: "The only movie that compares is *Blade Runner*. Or *Mad Max* – the first one."

R: "He lives within the X Men universe, but he doesn't operate the way any X Men have ever operated before. He's kinda a pain in their ass."

TJ: "He's a super-antihero instead of a superhero."

Lots of people were gasping at the preview...

R: "That's all TJ Miller. His warped mind."

TJ: "I'm glad it was drawing gasps. Ryan had some ideas that were too over-the-top to be included in the movie. That was a fun run where we got to riff back and forth."

R: "It's like being in an enchanted forest – he's the unicorn and you get to slap it on the ass and watch it go."

TJ: "Ryan thought Weasel should say to Deadpool, 'You look like a trucker took a sh*t on your shoulders and then shaped ears on either side.' That did not make the cut."

R: "We tried Shrek..."

TJ: "...Katharine Hepburn, the whole gamut. It was a really dynamic riffing session."

R: "*Sh*tting On The Shoulders Of Giants*, an autobiography by Ryan Reynolds and TJ Miller." Nick Levine

Ben Stiller and Owen Wilson ramp up the pout factor

Zoolander rides again

A flimsy plot doesn't hamper the sequel's daft appeal

ZOOLANDER 2

12A Ben Stiller, Owen Wilson, Penélope Cruz



MODELS CAMEOS THROWAWAY

ZOOLANDER WAS NEVER a great movie but it is beloved. Released in 2001 and roundly ignored at the box office, it was an uneven ragtag of sketches that barely constituted a plot, but within it were enough quotable lines and clever jokes about the ridiculousness of the male model's lot that it gained a second life on DVD. It's now been 15 years, about the average age of your beginner catwalk model, and *Zoolander*'s ready for another strut. A sequel never seemed necessary but fashion isn't about necessity – it's about spending lots of money on frivolity.

To justify the sequel, Ben Stiller, who stars, directs and writes, has conjured something every bit as daft as the first film's plot to assassinate the Malaysian president with fashion. The world's best-looking popstars are being murdered. We open with Justin Bieber being

chased through Rome and then, in a moment destined to be GIF-ed for eternity, shot to bits in front of Sting's house. For reasons that will later become almost clear, the only person who can stop all this is former model Derek Zoolander (Stiller), currently in hiding following the death of his wife. He's tempted over to Rome – as is his old friend Hansel (Owen Wilson), for less clear reasons – and they help a sexy Interpol agent (Penélope Cruz) uncover a fashion conspiracy. Honestly, it all sort of makes sense at the time.

Like the first film, *Zoolander 2*'s jokes are hit-and-miss, although this time it relies less on well-written lines and more on famous people dropping in for a few seconds. These cameos are funny when the star is cast against type,

like squeaky-clean popstrel Ariana Grande popping up as an orgy participant in a gimp mask, but less so when it's just a famous flung on the screen without reason, like Joe Jonas having a bit of a sit-down.

It's fun and throwaway and very much in the spirit of its predecessor. Unlike most fashions, if you're old enough to remember it from first time around, then you'll probably want to give it another whirl.

Olly Richards

Also out this week



CONCUSSION
12A Will Smith, Alec Baldwin, Gugu Mbatha-Raw
★★★★☆

The true story of a Nigerian forensic pathologist Bennet Omalu (Smith), who took on the National Football League to prove that repeated knocks to the head were causing severe brain trauma in players. Based on a 2009 GQ article, it's a fascinating story but one better suited to being read than watched.



A BIGGER SPLASH
★★★★☆
15 Tilda Swinton, Ralph Fiennes, Dakota Johnson

As Marianne (Swinton), a rockstar, is recovering from surgery with her boyfriend (Matthias Schoenaerts) on an Italian island, the peace is shattered by the arrival of old flame Harry (Fiennes) and his newly discovered daughter (Johnson). The tension builds until it's clear something terrible has to happen.

Read the full reviews of these and many more films on NME.com

vinyl is back?

it never went away.

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Polyester power:
the cast of *Vinyl*

Gangs of New York

Martin Scorsese and Mick Jagger go punk in this humdinger based in 1970s NYC

VINYL

Sky Atlantic, February 15
Bobby Cannavale, Olivia Wilde, Ray Romano

1970S NEW YORK DRAINPIPES

Bobby Cannavale
(below) stars alongside
Max Casella



VINYL IS A 1970s NEW YORK costume drama from people who were actually there. Legendary '70s shagger Mick Jagger produces, it was created by New York native Terence Winter (the brains behind *Boardwalk Empire*) and 43 years after the release of his classic film *Mean Streets*, Martin Scorsese returns to his

hometown to direct the pilot.

The 10-episode series follows the evolution of rock music, from poseurs like The Who and Led Zeppelin noodling about with guitars to the explosion of androgynous cats in drainpipes (New York Dolls, Patti Smith, The Ramones) smashing out shouty three-chord punk masterpieces – seen through the eyes of a record label president, played by the super-handsome Bobby Cannavale.

It's got everything you'd expect from a Scorsese period piece – itchy clothes, drugs, guns, violence, people sniffing coke and hurling their heads back in wild abandon, music execs enjoying hot XXX action in the middle of the afternoon. Not to mention an unruly underworld of poky New York dive bars full of freaks and weirdos wearing tiny leather jackets and jeans so tight you can see their lunch. Fans of gentle early morning sitcoms will be delighted to see that Raymond from *Everybody Loves Raymond* is also in it.

Josh Burt

Swot up on '70s New York

Dive into this lot in preparation for *Vinyl*

READ

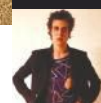
JUST KIDS

Patti Smith (2010)
Smith's spellbinding autobiography traces her rise to punk stardom and offers insights into the murkier areas of the 1970s NY art scene.
What it'll learn ya: That the New York punks were grimy, all-inclusive – and really just kids.

LISTEN

TRASH

The New York Dolls (1973)
A forerunner to punk, which wasn't far behind, this track perfectly conjures the sleazier side of '70s New York.
What it'll learn ya: That the early '70s weren't all prog and grown men talking about druids.



BLANK GENERATION

Richard Hell and The Voidoids (1976)

Arguably the National Anthem of early US punk, it's got the lot – noisy guitars, drums, a guy shrieking about boredom.

What it'll learn ya: That NYC had its own version of 'Pretty Vacant' and it was wicked.

WATCH



TAXI DRIVER

(1976)
Scorsese's paranoid masterpiece is a putrid study of the Big Apple, starring Robert De Niro as a cabbie with a one-way ticket to a total psychotic breakdown.
What it'll learn ya: That 1970s NY was a breeding ground for scumbags and weirdos.



END OF THE CENTURY

(2003)
The Ramones were practically the house band at legendary New York venue CBGB. This documentary tells their tale.
What it'll learn ya: That disenfranchised 1970s New York youth could write great songs inspired by glue sniffing.

Ilana Glazer and
Abbi Jacobson
play themselves in
Broad City



BROAD CITY

Wednesday, Comedy
Central (US), 10pm
Abbi Jacobson, Ilana
Glazer, Hannibal Buress

SURREAL BFFS WEED

Lessons from the city

Broad City is the best programme on TV about 20-something life in New York City. Series three starts this week. Here's what Abbi Jacobson and Ilana Glazer's escapades have taught us so far...

DO CLEAN APARTMENTS IN YOUR UNDERWEAR

As learned in: Series one, episode one

The girls are on a mission to get into a secret Lil Wayne gig. The only thing stopping them is a lack of funds. With a target of \$200 (to buy: tickets, weed, drinks), they try everything from returning used office goods and bucket drumming in Madison Square. Neither comes through, but the ad Ilana secretly posted on Craigslist offering "two Jewesses trying to make a buck" does. All they have to do for the money is clean a stranger's apartment for an hour. In their underwear. While he watches on. Pretending to be a baby.

DON'T GO SHOPPING ON A COCKTAIL OF HALLUCINOGENIC PAINKILLERS

As learned in: Series two, episode three

When hallucinating that a big, blue tooth-like creature called Bingo Bronson is telling you to buy manuka honey and granola or knock over the "earth-friendly cereals", you should probably step away from the trolley. Abbi learns the hard way when, having had her wisdom teeth removed and dosed up on powerful painkillers, she escapes Ilana's care and goes rampaging around Whole Foods with eyebrows drawn halfway up her forehead.

DON'T PUT DILDOS IN THE DISHWASHER

As learned in: Series two, episode four

After Abbi gets her neighbour Jeremy in bed, she decides to clean his dildo in the dishwasher. When it comes out melted, she goes out and finds one that looks the same, thinking he'll be none the wiser. Wrong. Jeremy can tell a "cheap knock-off" from his "custom-made-for-my-body" bit of kit.

DO HAVE YOUR PHONE ON YOU AT ALL TIMES

As learned in: Series two, episode six

Tired of being "plugged into the matrix all the time", Abbi and Ilana decide to leave their mobiles at home and rollerblade to a dog wedding in the park. "If I had my phone right now, I'd Tinder the f'ck out of all those beefcakes," sighs Abbi, shortly before skating into a pit and spraining her ankle. With the directions to the wedding on the phone that's at home, Ilana has to use her wilderness skills to help her friend (she pretends to be a dog and tries to sniff out the party). Meanwhile, Abbi lies back, smokes some joints to ease the pain and daydreams about Elijah Wood and Mark Ruffalo.

FOR FANS OF



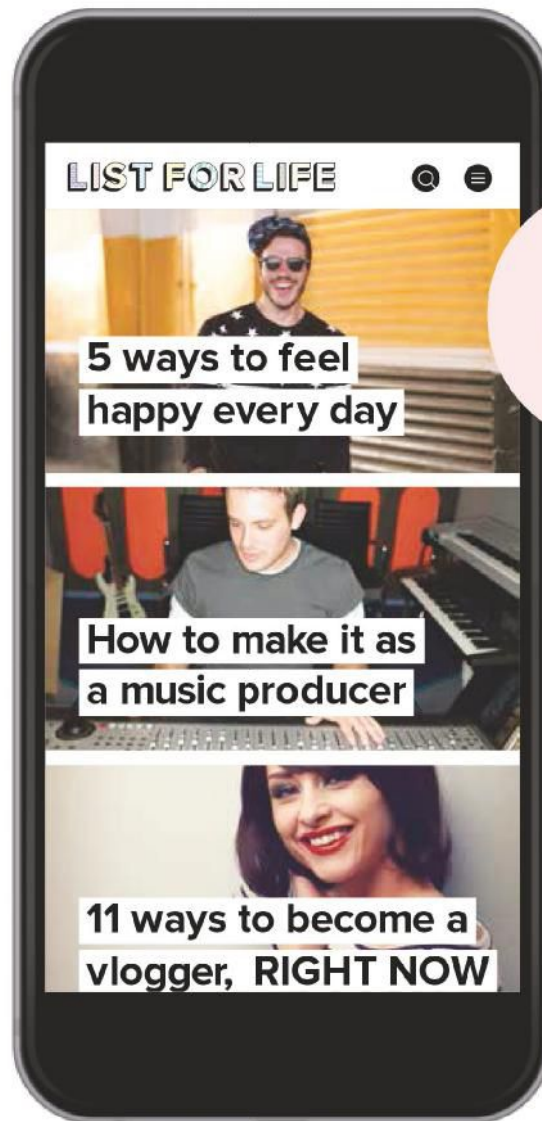
INSIDE AMY SCHUMER



UNBREAKABLE KIMMY SCHMIDT

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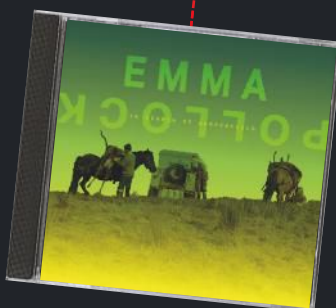
animal collective
painting with
19/02/2016



bloc party
hymns
out now



emma pollock
in search of harperfield
out now



the cult
hidden city
out now



nevermen
nevermen
out now



night beats
who sold my generation
out now



money
suicide songs
out now



wild nothing
life of pause
19/02/2016



cavern of anti-matter
void beats / invocation trex
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YOU HEARD IT HERE FIRST

Porches

Resurrecting the house love-in one gleaming synthpop track at a time

PLENTY OF RECORDS have captured the indie spirit of New York City, from the Lower East Side squalor of 'The Velvet Underground' to the Upper West Side prep of 'Vampire Weekend'. 'Pool', the second album from Porches (AKA Aaron Maine), continues the lineage, capturing the glow of the Big Apple at night.

Maine already lived in NYC when he released his debut 'Slow Dance In The Cosmos' in 2013, a mix of wailing lo-fi guitars and shimmering synths. The latter take the lead on 'Pool', helping to steer Maine to "make something that reflected my experience [of the city]".

After 'Slow Dance...' was released, Maine began listening to house and electronic music with a keener ear, and it was the ethos behind those genres that really struck him. "I was reading about [house's] origins of bringing people together and the idea of gathering to dance. I thought it was such a crazy, beautiful mission statement."

With influences like Frankie Knuckles and Arthur Russell, 'Pool' is a crisp, minimal but dancefloor-worthy record. Mostly recorded in Maine's home, it's his first proper attempt at production and marks something of a learning curve for an inquisitive and adventurous artist.

His creative restlessness doesn't stop with his own music, though. In the future he's keen to produce for other people, as well as get involved with some collaborations. Earlier this year, Maine posted a video clip to his Facebook page, which featured noted NYC man about town and

Blood Orange singer Dev Hynes playing bass. "We've been hanging out and sharing music with each other," Maine says of their friendship. "We've been talking about working on stuff together."

Porches' future may be unwritten, but it's not hard to get excited about the magic he'll produce as he continues to explore both his music and his surroundings. He's a "psycho-productive" discoverer – intent on building his own refined world. **Rhian Daly**

Details

BASED New York City

SOCIAL @porches_hiii

FACT Maine's songs feature two recurring characters, Franklin and Ronald, alter egos for his girlfriend Greta Kline (AKA fellow up-and-coming songwriter Frankie Cosmos) and himself respectively.

BUY 'Pool' is out now via Domino Records

For more on Porches, head to NME.com

Aaron Maine

Best track

BE APART

Elegantly bouncing, Arthur Russell-indebted synthpop designed to lead you to the heart of the dancefloor.

FOR FANS OF



CHROMATICS



EMPRESS OF

live

THE 10 MOST IMPORTANT
GIGS THIS WEEK

1

Tame Impala

Fri 12 & Sat 13 Alexandra
Palace, London

WHO: Perth psych five-piece masterminded by Kevin Parker. Last year they shifted from fuzzy guitar to woozy synth on third album 'Currents'.

WHY: They're an entirely different proposition live, amping up their melodies with a shamanic intensity. Look out for 'Half Full Glass Of Wine'.

WHO'S SUPPORTING: Fellow Aussies, synthy indie trio Jagwar Ma, whose debut 'Howlin'' came out in 2013.

TICKETS: Sold out, but available on secondary ticketing sites for £55.

2

Foals

Fri 12 SSE Hydro, Glasgow

Sat 13 Arena, Manchester

Sun 14 Motion, Bristol

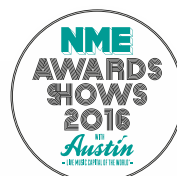
Tue 16 SSE Arena Wembley,
London

WHO: Oxford indie rock five-piece fronted by Yannis Philippakis, this week starting out on their UK arena tour.

WHY: Their fourth album 'What Went Down' was one of 2015's finest – and Foals are possibly the best live band in the country right now.

WHO'S SUPPORTING: Manchester's genre-mashing indie quartet Everything Everything, plus a DJ set from lovable indie folks Peace.

TICKETS: £28.60-£39.50
from ticketmaster.co.uk



4

Suede

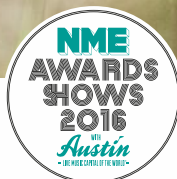
Fri 12 O2 Forum, London
Sun 14 O2 Academy & Underground, Leeds

WHO: Alt-rock legends and 2015 NME Godlike Genius award-winners who've just released seventh album 'Night Thoughts'.

WHY: You get two sets: 'Night Thoughts' live, with an accompanying feature film, and a second set of 'hits and treats'.

WHO'S SUPPORTING: No details yet.

TICKETS: £31.35 from ents24.com



6

The Magic Gang

Mon 15 100 Club, London

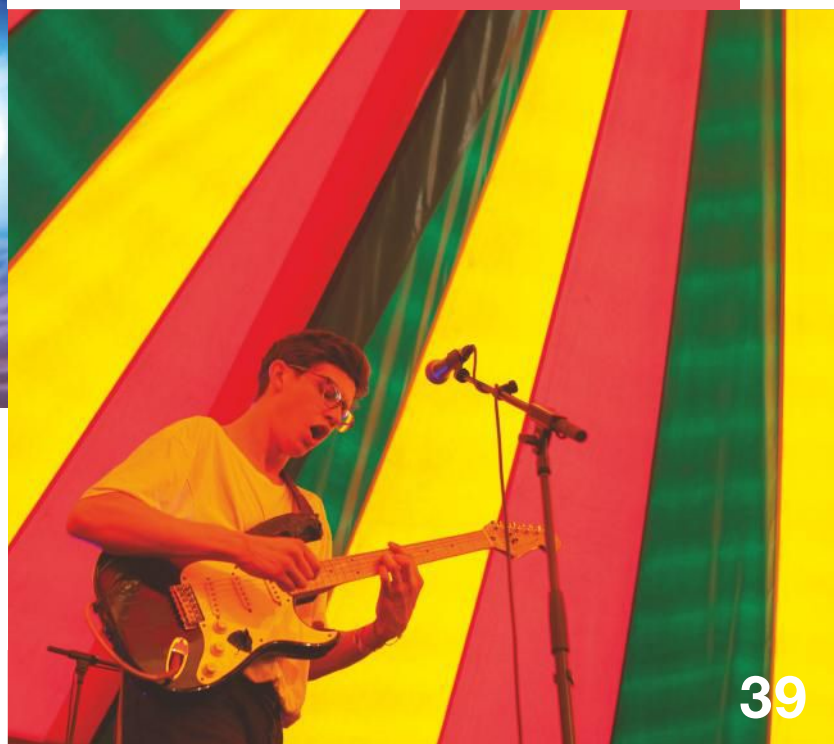
WHO: Brighton indie quartet that just want to confound your expectations of them.

WHY: Their sun-kissed EP makes it feel like August, not February. Everybody needs that sometimes.

WHO'S SUPPORTING: No details yet.

TICKETS: £11.11 from nme.com/awards/tickets

For tour news and live reviews go to NME.com



3

Julia Holter

Mon 15 Oval Space, London
Tue 16 Gorilla, Manchester

WHO: LA singer caught between Joanna Newsom's spindly experimentalism and Laurie Anderson's art pop.

WHY: She's a mesmerising performer whose refined melodies take a surprise bashing live.

WHO'S SUPPORTING: DM Stith, a New York multi-instrumentalist who's on Sufjan Stevens' label Asthmatic Kitty.

TICKETS: £16.50-18.50 from songkick.com



5

Declan McKenna

Mon 15 Barfly, London

WHO: A 17-year-old indie wunderkind from Hertfordshire who won Glastonbury Festival's Emerging Talent Competition in 2015. Writes songs about painkillers and corruption in football.

WHY: His gigs so far have shown plenty of promise, earning him apt comparisons to early Jamie T.

WHO'S SUPPORTING: No details yet.

TICKETS: £8.60 from songkick.com



7



Spring King

Fri 12 The Moon Club, Cardiff

Tue 16 100 Club, London

Wed 17 The Hope & Ruin, Brighton

Thu 18 Bodega, Nottingham

WHO: Buzz-backed, punky Manchester four-piece, brainchild of singer and drummer Tarek Musa – who as producer also works with Gengahr and Trudy.

WHY: Zane Lowe chose their song 'City' as the first track to be played on his show – the first on Apple Music's Beats 1 service – back in June. They're kind of a big deal.

WHO'S SUPPORTING: Fews and, in London only, Beach Baby.

TICKETS: £9.60 from dice.fm



9



King Gizzard And The Lizard Wizard

Mon 15 Gorilla, Manchester

Tue 16 The Rescue Rooms, Nottingham

Wed 17 The Fleece, Bristol

Thu 18 Electric Ballroom, London

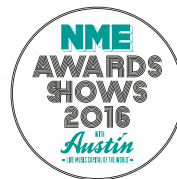
WHO: Last year this septet put out two brilliant, diverse records – heavy psych album 'Quarters!' and folky noodler 'Paper Mâché Dream Balloon'.

WHY: They're bonkers – read their name again if you weren't sure – and live that makes for a riotously fun show.

WHO'S SUPPORTING: No details yet.

TICKETS: £14.85-£17.16 from nme.com/tickets

8



Mystery Jets

Tue 16 Electric Brixton, London

Thu 18 O2 Institute, Birmingham

WHO: London indie heroes who've just released fifth album 'Curve Of The Earth', produced in their Stoke Newington studio.

WHY: As the title suggests, their new material is cosmic in scope and will feel even more so in these large spaces.

WHO'S SUPPORTING:

Indiepop duo Ekkah at their London show, while in Birmingham they'll be joined by Johnny Lloyd and Declan McKenna (see p39).

TICKETS: £15.95-£19.91 from nme.com/tickets



10

Ezra Furman

Mon 15 O2 Academy, Oxford

Tue 16 Glee Club, Birmingham

Wed 17 Sheffield University Union, Sheffield

Thu 18 Concorde 2, Brighton

WHO: A 29-year-old gender-fluid Chicagoan who wears dresses and pearl necklaces onstage and sings wryly about depression, recklessness and faith.

WHY: See above.

WHO'S SUPPORTING: No details yet.

TICKETS: Brighton sold out; £13.75-£14.30 elsewhere from ents24.com



Best of the rest

Angel Haze

Tue 16 The Fleece, Bristol

Beirut

Fri 12 The Roundhouse, London
Sat 13 Albert Hall, Manchester

Bill Ryder-Jones

Wed 17 Crescent WMC, York

Cage The Elephant

Fri 12 Bierkeller, Bristol
Sun 14 The Rescue Rooms, Nottingham
Mon 15 Riverside, Newcastle
Tue 16 QMU, Glasgow
Thu 18 O2 Academy, Liverpool

!!! (chk chk chk)

Sat 13 The Rescue Rooms, Nottingham
Sun 14 CCA, Glasgow
Mon 15 The Warehouse, Leeds
Tue 16 Sound Control, Manchester
Wed 17 The Joiners, Southampton
Thu 18 Alfie Birds & The Oobleck, Birmingham

Enter Shikari

Thu 18 O2 Academy, Glasgow

Floating Points

Fri 12 Academy, Manchester
Sat 13 Belgrave Music Hall, Leeds

Four Tet

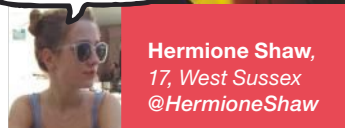
Sat 13 The Roundhouse, London

Girls Names

Wed 17 The Boileroom, Guildford
Thu 18 Soup Kitchen, Manchester



READER'S PICK



Hermione Shaw,
17, West Sussex
@HermioneShaw

Tame Impala

Fri 12 Alexandra Palace, London
"Because they have three albums' worth of gold for me to dance badly to."

Hinds

Mon 15 Junction, Cambridge
Tue 16 Norwich Arts Centre, Norwich
Wed 17 The Rescue Rooms, Nottingham
Thu 18 KOKO, London

Hurts

Fri 12 Academy, Manchester
Sat 13 O2 Academy Brixton, London

Jess Glynne

Wed 17 Usher Hall, Edinburgh
Thu 18 O2 Apollo, Manchester

John Grant

Fri 12 O2 Academy, Oxford

Kula Shaker

Sat 13 Pavilion Theatre, Worthing
Mon 15 The ABC, Glasgow
Tue 16 O2 Ritz, Manchester
Wed 17 The Roundhouse, London

Lissie

Sat 13 O2 Academy, Oxford
Mon 15 O2 Forum, London

Little Simz

Fri 12 Belgrave Music Hall, Leeds
Sat 13 The Deaf Institute, Manchester
Mon 15 The Garage, Glasgow
Tue 16 O2 Academy, Islington
Wed 17 The Haunt, Brighton

Marina And The Diamonds

Tue 16 O2 Academy, Glasgow
Wed 17 O2 Academy & Underground, Leeds
Thu 18 Academy, Manchester

NZCA Lines

Fri 12 Headrow House, Leeds
Mon 15 Sticky Mike's Frog Bar, Brighton
Tue 16 The Pickle Factory, London

Poliça

Mon 15 Village Underground, London

Public Service Broadcasting

Fri 12 OPEN, Norwich

Richard Hawley

Thu 18 The Baths Hall, Scunthorpe

Savages

Thu 18 De La Warr Pavilion, Bexhill-on-Sea

Sauna Youth

Sat 13 The Forge, London

Sea Pinks

Fri 12 The Shacklewell Arms, London

Show Me The Body

Fri 18 Electrowerkz, London
Sun 20 The White Hotel, Manchester
Mon 21 Temple Of Boom, Leeds

Skream

Sat 13 Liquid Rooms, Edinburgh

Slipknot

Fri 12 Genting Arena, Birmingham
Sat 13 First Direct Arena, Leeds
Mon 15 SSE Arena, Belfast

Sunflower Bean

Mon 15 Sneaky Pete's, Edinburgh
Tue 16 Soup Kitchen, Manchester
Thu 18 The Dome, London

PINS

Fri 12 Bodega, Nottingham
Sat 13 The Hug And Pint, Glasgow
Sun 14 The Ferret, Preston
Mon 15 O2 Academy, Leicester
Tue 16 O2 Academy, Liverpool
Wed 17 Oporto Bar & Restaurant, Leeds
Thu 18 The Albert, Brighton

Telegram

Fri 12 Chameleon Café Bar, Nottingham
Sat 13 Soup Kitchen, Manchester
Sun 14 O2 Academy, Leicester
Mon 15 Blitz, Preston
Tue 16 Broadcast, Glasgow
Wed 17 Adelphi, Hull
Thu 18 The Basement, York

White Denim

Mon 15 The Deaf Institute, Manchester
Tue 16 Islington Assembly Hall, London

Withered Hand

Fri 12 The Hairy Dog, Derby



CLUB NME

Iris Gold
Fri 12 KOKO, London

For tour news and live reviews go to NME.com

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THU 4 FEB NEWCASTLE O₂ ACADEMY
FRI 5 FEB GLASGOW BARROWLAND

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MON 8 FEB LEEDS O₂ ACADEMY
TUE 9 FEB CAMBRIDGE CORN EXCHANGE
THU 11 FEB LONDON O₂ ACADEMY BRIXTON
FRI 12 FEB BIRMINGHAM O₂ ACADEMY

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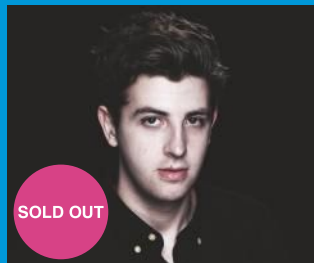
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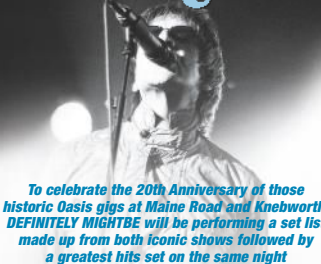


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Alan Partridge

Local radio legend

The first song I remember hearing

BERNARD CRIBBINS
Right Said Fred

"As a child, I suffered from epistaxis (nosebleeds) and often spent afternoons with the school receptionist waiting for the bleeding to stop. One afternoon, this 1962 novelty song came on the radio and I was soon duetting with the friendly spinster, singing along, not caring that the loud noise had brought on another nosebleed (epistaxis)."



The first album I bought

QUEEN
Jazz

"Notable for the song 'Fat Bottomed Girls'. I once bumped into Brian May at Jodrell Bank and pointed out women were meant to have fatter bottoms than men: as well as being an evolutionary trait to attract a mate, women have higher oestrogen levels, which deposit fat around the buttocks and thighs. We've been friends ever since."



The first song I fell in love with

DAVID ESSEX
Hold Me Close

"My ex-wife Carol told me, in confidence, that lovemaking made her scalp sweat, so in the early days of our courtship I'd treat her to a post-coital hair brush. After intercourse, we'd sit naked on the bed with me combing her locks for bits that had become damp and tangled. This was the record we listened to."

The song that makes me want to dance

MODEST MOUSE
Float On

"Does marching count? I live alone, so often find myself marching back and forth to pop songs. 'Stop The Cavalry' by Jona Lewie, 'Portsmouth' by Mike Oldfield and 'Safety Dance' by Men Without Hats lend themselves to a brisk hup-two-three-four but I'm going for this 2004 track I heard at an ice rink, because the singer sounds like Bryan Ferry, who I know from Tory party fundraisers."

The song I do at karaoke

BRYAN ADAMS
Summer Of '69

"Bryan has a natural gravel to his voice, which I once tried to replicate by smoking five cigarettes before singing karaoke. While it did lend my performance a certain rasp, the nicotine made me giggle (uncontrollably) and then vomit (uncontrollably). Ever the professional, I completed the song while using my coat as a mop."



The song that makes me laugh

HADDAWAY
What Is Love

"In 2008, I spotted Haddaway in a hotel steam room. I strode over, introduced myself and said I wanted him to sing on a jingle I'd written. The sessions went badly and it was only when I visited the same hotel and saw him dredging the pool that I realised he wasn't Haddaway, just a man who worked for Jurys Inn."



The song I can no longer listen to

KENNY LOGGINS
Danger Zone

"On long drives, my friend Eamonn Holmes and I would play the *Top Gun* soundtrack at high volume. We'd don Ray-Bans and one would pretend to be Maverick, the other Goose. I can't listen to this song now. Not for any painful memories – it's just a terrible piece of music."

The song I want played at my funeral

STAN RIDGWAY
Camouflage

"Simply outstanding."

Alan Partridge: Mid Morning Matters returns to Sky Atlantic at 10pm on Tuesday February 16

Go to NME.com for more Soundtracks



The wisdom of the *NME* archives

THIS WEEK
MORRISSEY
The Smiths frontman
February 11 1989

"I think I must be, absolutely, a total sex object. In every sense of the word. A lot of men and women find me unmistakably attractive."



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