

28 JULY 2017 / FREE EVERY FRIDAY

NME



THE SONGS OF THE SUMMER

GO LONG

OR GO HOME

NEW



Lewis Hamilton

L'ORÉAL
PARIS
MEN EXPERT

NME

Hello...

THE EDITOR IS AWAY...



IT CAN BE HARD, when the oppressive summer sun is beating down upon you, to do anything other than bask in its

magnificence. When at its fiercest, the sun has a way of burning away the urgency of the day and reducing your needs to three basic things: something zippy to read, something breezy to listen to and something cold to eat.

We've got no food for you, and I'm sorry about that. But because we're feeling pretty optimistic that you are, at present, enjoying some serious heat, we have been busy putting together a zippy read about 2017's breeziest summer tunes for you. Kendrick's in there. SZA's in there. There's even a joke about Katy Perry flicking her rod in there. It's exactly what you need today.

Elsewhere, you'll find Brandon Flowers dissing the last Killers album 'Battle Born', *The Big Sick* producer Judd Apatow explaining why he just can't stop slaying Donald Trump on Twitter, and a troubling picture of Arctic Monkeys singer Alex Turner with a beard. Enjoy yourselves.

TOM HOWARD
Deputy Editor
@tomahoward

Tove Styrke:
excellent pop
star p22



COVER STORY

18

The songs of the summer

Starring: SZA, Kendrick, Wolf Alice, rooftop snogs, Lorde, Miley Cyrus, Lana Del Rey, a fishing trip – and more!

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AGENDA

WHAT EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT THIS WEEK

RIP Chester Bennington

The Linkin Park singer was a pivotal figure in the 21st Century US rock scene

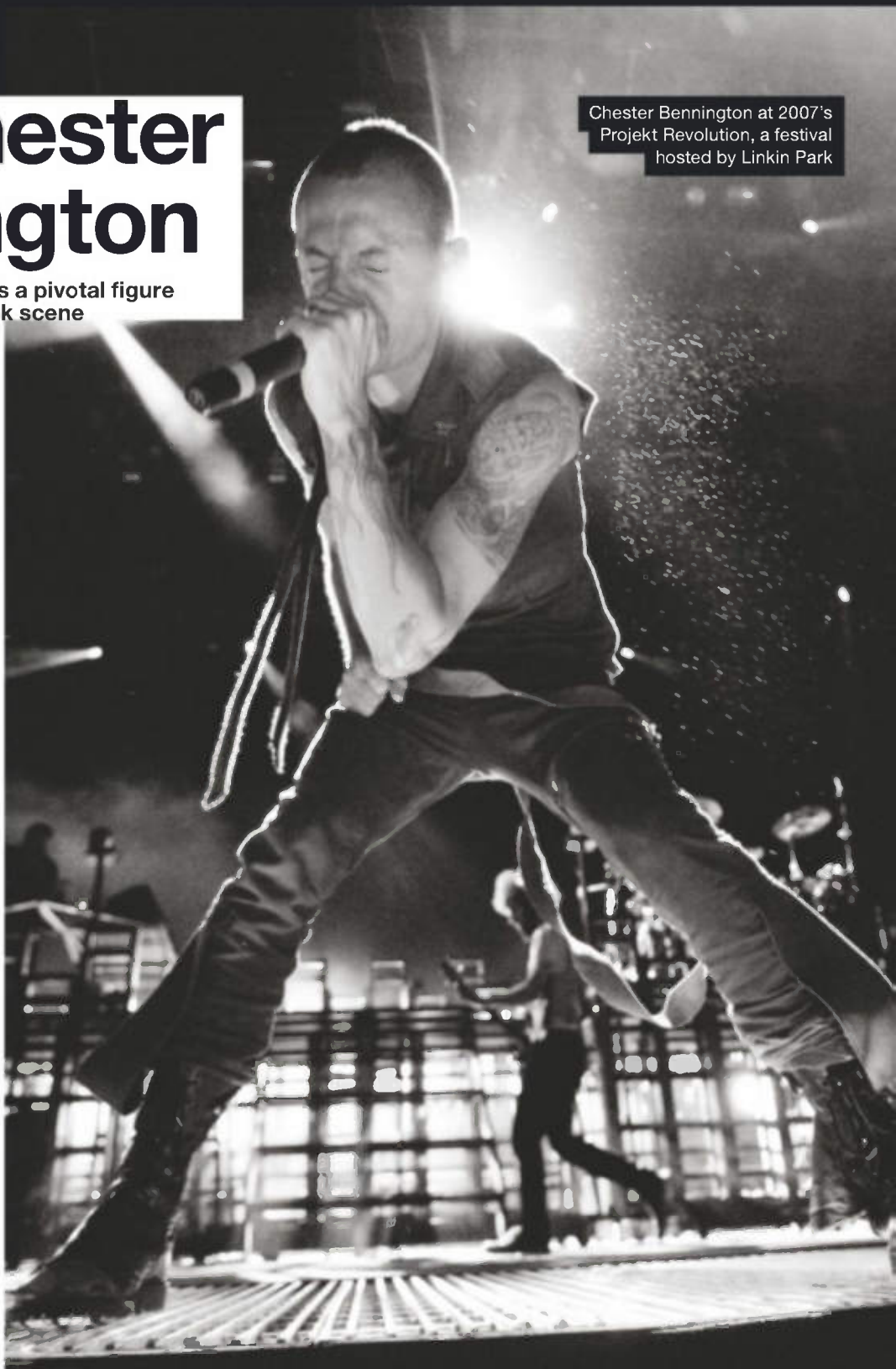
CHESTER BENNINGTON, the singer in Linkin Park who died last week aged 41, was a pivotal figure in the 21st century US rock scene and a leading light of the nu-metal genre, selling over 70 million albums and working with an array of acts from Jay Z to Mötley Crüe and Santana. Yet his work was driven by his internal struggles – a troubled artist, he battled alcohol and drug abuse issues and spoke in interviews about being a victim of child abuse.

Born in Phoenix, Arizona, on March 20, 1976, Chester was raised by his mother, a nurse, and his detective father, who investigated child abuse cases, until his parents divorced and his father gained custody of him. His childhood was troubled; suffering sexual abuse by an older male friend from the age of seven until he was 13, Chester turned to drugs such as opium, amphetamine and cocaine, and was bullied at school – “I was knocked around like a rag doll, for being skinny and different,” he said. He took solace in artistic work such as poetry, drawing and writing songs, and the music of Depeche Mode and Stone Temple Pilots.

Aged 17, Bennington moved in with his mother and began his music career singing in a band called Sean Dowdell And His Friends, and later, with Dowdell, Grey Daze, who recorded three



Chester Bennington at 2007's Projekt Revolution, a festival hosted by Linkin Park





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Chester and guitarist Brad Delson on the 2001 Family Values Tour

albums during the 1990s. In 1996, he married his first wife Samantha Olit, with whom he had a son, Draven. Leaving Grey Daze in 1998, Bennington was ready to quit music when Jeff Blue, vice-president of A&R at Zomba Music, gave him the chance to audition as lead singer with the band that would become Linkin Park. Finding a creative bond with co-vocalist Mike Shinoda, Linkin Park eventually signed to Warner Bros and rode the rising wave of nu-metal to Number Two on the US Billboard chart with 2000 debut album 'Hybrid Theory'.

Their amalgam of hard rock, rap and electronica, combined with Bennington's lyrics about his parents' divorce and drug abuse, helped the band become a culture-shifting phenomenon, selling 30 million copies of the album within two years, making it the biggest-selling debut album of the 21st Century so far.

Linkin Park's standing as heroes to a generation of rap-metal fans has barely waned since. Their 2003 follow-up 'Metemora', featuring global hit



Linkin Park in 2017

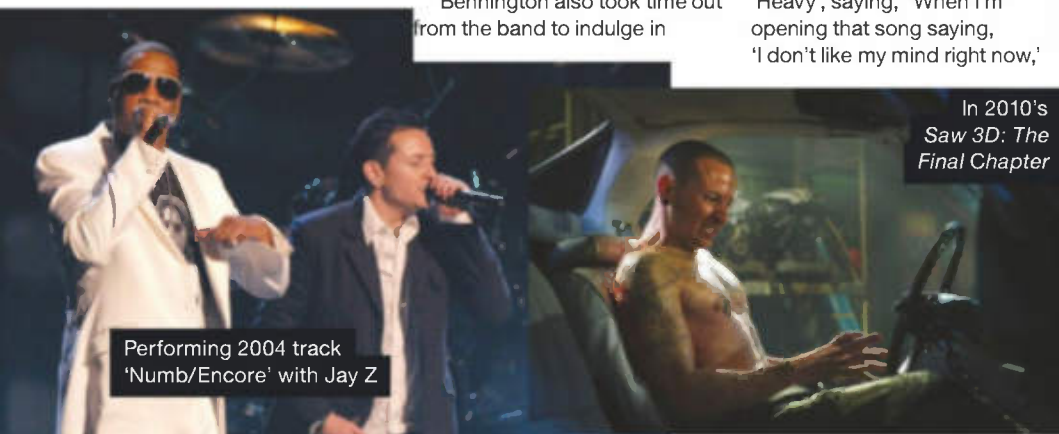
'Numb', sold 27 million copies of 2003 – and gained the band further critical acclaim when several songs were mashed-up with Jay Z tracks on the collaborative 'Collision Course' EP; they would go on to perform their joint hit 'Numb/Encore' together at Live 8 in Philadelphia. Four of their subsequent five albums hit US Number One, including this year's 'One More Light'. Linkin Park have enjoyed almost 20 years as one of the biggest US rock bands, headlining major festivals around the world and encouraging new acts such as My Chemical Romance and HIM by taking them on their Projekt Revolution tours.

Bennington also took time out from the band to indulge in

several offshoots. Around the time he divorced his first wife, later to marry former Playboy model Talinda Bentley, he co-founded a "darker and moodier" band called Dead By Sunrise, which released album 'Out Of Ashes' in 2009, and fulfilled his ambition of fronting Stone Temple Pilots, replacing Scott Weiland as singer in 2013.

During his time in Linkin Park, Bennington kicked his drink and drug habits and appeared in several films including *Saw 3D: The Final Chapter*, *Crank* and the sequel *Crank: High Voltage*.

In 2017 interviews for the 'One More Light' album, Bennington opened up about the issues that inspired the album. He spoke specifically about the song 'Heavy', saying, "When I'm opening that song saying, 'I don't like my mind right now,'



Performing 2004 track 'Numb/Encore' with Jay Z

In 2010's *Saw 3D: The Final Chapter*

Are you depressed?

Mental Health charity Young Minds lists some symptoms as:

- Not wanting to do things that you previously enjoyed
- Not wanting to meet up with friends or avoiding social situations
- Sleeping more or less than normal
- Eating more or less than normal
- Feeling irritable, upset, miserable or lonely
- Being self-critical
- Feeling hopeless
- Wanting to self-harm
- Feeling tired and not having any energy

If you think you might be, here are some people who can help:

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that's f**king real. It is not a safe place for me to be unless I'm doing what I need to do – taking care of myself, being real, being open, getting it out, taking all the steps to make myself whole; then it's a pretty safe neighbourhood, but it goes bad real fast. I recommend that everyone goes and writes their problems down on a piece of paper, takes it outside and f**king burns that s**t. Talk to somebody about it. I'm fortunate enough to be a member of some 12-step programs, and we get in a room with a bunch of people who don't know each other and we all talk about our lives... I know exactly who I am, I know exactly what I'm made of and I'm totally happy with it. So it's great to be able to be doing what I do."

Bennington was found dead in his Palos Verdes Estates home in California, from an apparent suicide. He leaves behind a wife and six children.

Brandon with The Killers at Hyde Park on July 8



The return of Mr Brightside

After five years away, The Killers are back with new album 'Wonderful Wonderful'. Frontman Brandon Flowers talks making peace with his past

You said new track 'The Man' looks back on the arrogance of your past. Are we talking about your early days?

"Around about the time that The Killers started, I guess – that's where 'The Man' harkens back to, and years after as well. I can live with it, you know. It was nice to sort of go in and inhabit that character. I think a good chunk of this album is making peace with that. I've been cleaning it up for a long time. I don't think that was really a great representation, an honest representation of who I am. It came from a place of insecurity and I would just puff my chest out and say things and put a lot of negativity out there. I basically came to regret that, and I'm sure a lot of people can identify with that."

You write a lot about 'real' American life. Have you been inspired by the impact of politics in the US?

"I'm turning it around. I'm turning the pen around on myself. I'm looking in the mirror on this record and focusing a lot on my own personal

experiences. What I like about it is that the songs that I love to perform the most are songs that sort of went into that territory and connected with people. Even 'Mr Brightside' was a personal song. They come from those real places. This is the more tender



(L-r): Brandon, Mark Stoermer, Dave Keuning, Ronnie Vannucci Jr

Witness Flowers' power

At the following:

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- Mon 6**
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Genting Arena
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- Mon 13**
MANCHESTER Arena
- Tue 14**
MANCHESTER Arena
- Thu 16** DUBLIN 3 Arena
- Fri 17** BELFAST SSE
Arena Belfast
- Sun 19** LEEDS
First Direct Arena
- Mon 20** GLASGOW
SSE Hydro
- Tue 21** ABERDEEN AECC
GE Oil & Gas Arena
- Thu 23** NOTTINGHAM
Motorpoint Arena
- Sat 25**
SHEFFIELD Arena
- Mon 27**
LONDON O2 Arena
- Tue 28**
LONDON O2 Arena

side. I'm more bare than I've ever been."

You've said that your last album 'Battle Born' just "wasn't good enough".

Do you still feel that way?

"I think we were a little bit aimless on 'Battle Born'. We were searching. You're not always gonna touch what you're reaching for, and we didn't quite get there. I don't mean to take anything away from it; you know, there are songs on it that I love, but as a whole I wasn't very happy with it. This record is just different. There's a direction, and I think we got there. I hope that people recognise that and feel that."

The Killers release 'Wonderful Wonderful' on September 20, before a full UK and Ireland tour in November



The weirdest stuff we overheard at this year's Secret Garden Party bash

It's where the beautiful people go to let it all hang out, physically and vocally. There's something about the hedonistic free-for-all that makes it impossible for most Gardeners to think anything that they don't then immediately say. Take these blabbermouths, for instance...



BRAD PITT

Was serenaded on stage by Frank Ocean at FYF Fest in LA. Dreamy AF.



JOSH HOMME

The QOTSA man destroyed a heckler in Oz who gave him 'the finger'.



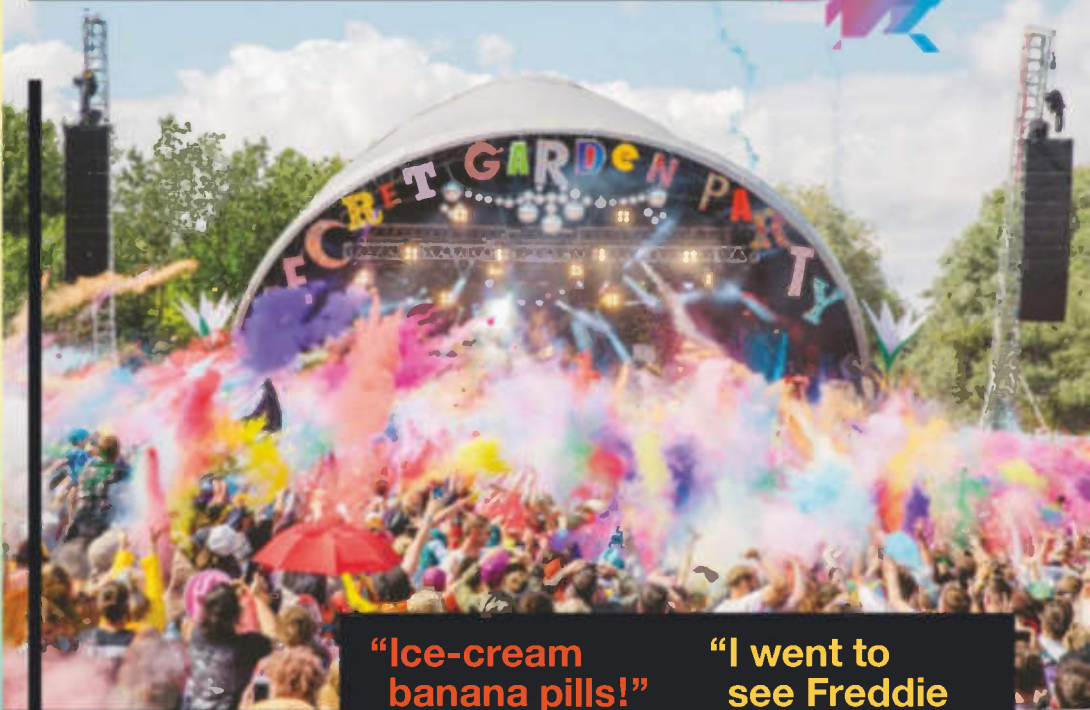
MADAME TUSSAUDS

Put a Beyoncé waxwork on display that looked nothing like Beyoncé.



JUSTIN BIEBER

Banned from China for "bad behaviour". Naughty, Biebs.



"Ice-cream banana pills!"

"I went to see Freddie Fellowes doing a talk about it being the last one and he burst into tears twice"

"It's a silver thong! PUT IT ON! PUT IT ON!"

"I fancy her so much I want to crawl in her belly button"

"When I was casting for *Hunted* I had to interview all these people from MI5. It was terrifying"

"Let the rain come down on your souls!"

"I think Kate Moss was in the Little Gay Brother tent last night, but it might have been a drag queen"

"He was so pissed he was slipping around in the mud like a Bambi"

"...and then I'm gonna kill the princess"

"Have you got any electro swing?"



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Last W33K
IN NUMBERS



1

Pearl Mackie has confirmed her character Bill will appear in one more episode of *Doctor Who* – the Christmas Day special.



4

Father John Misty revealed his fourth album will drop next year. "It's called 'Pure Comedy 2'," he LOLed.



90

The number of people hospitalised during a Chance The Rapper gig in Connecticut due to "partying and excessive alcohol consumption".



£150

Fine issued to a five-year-old girl for selling lemonade to Lovebox punters. The council's since apologised.

INTERVIEW: OLLY RICHARDS. PHOTOS: REX FEATURES; BBC; ALAMY



Apatow and Nanjiani on the set of *The Big Sick*

King of comedy

Judd Apatow (*The 40-Year-Old Virgin* and *Knocked Up*) is back with *The Big Sick*, a true tale about a couple dealing with racial differences and illness

This is a very funny film, starring Kumail Nanjiani and Zoe Kazan, but its core themes – death and racial tension – could easily be depressing. What made you think "this is comedy gold"?

"It's such an awkward circumstance that there had to be a way for it to be funny. It took a long time to *make* it funny. The script took three years to get

the right tone. It was when we hired Ray Romano and Holly Hunter as the parents [of the woman in the coma] that we got it. They're people trying to distract themselves from the sadness by making jokes."

You were once a plucky young man trying to get movies made and fighting against *The Man*. Now you're a very powerful guy. Are you now *The Man*?

"No, because I still have to ask people for money to make the films. *The Man* is the guy with the money."

You made this before Donald Trump was president, but your central character is an American Muslim who faces racism. How did you feel about the

film accidentally becoming a political statement?

"Our premiere at Sundance was the day of Trump's inauguration, so in a strange way we've run parallel with him. I think when he's calling for a travel ban it's an important moment to humanise [Muslims] and show these characters who love the United States... I'm really happy about that."

Speaking of Trump, you're very outspoken against him on Twitter...

"My family and I discussed if I should stop, but it feels morally wrong not to stand up and say something about all the horrible things he's trying to do. I'm just a little pebble in the ocean, but there are millions of people like me. It adds up."

The people for him are generally not nice on social media. How do you deal with them?

"The passion's gone out of them. Trump breaks all his promises. He's doing everything in the interests of corporations and I think that's very dispiriting to his supporters. There are way fewer of them now."

Read the NME review of *The Big Sick* on page 29



Zoe Kazan and Kumail Nanjiani

Love for Judd

What Apatow's protégées say about him...



LENA DUNHAM: "Judd's work always seemed it

was about the male outsider experience. He was getting at many of the feelings I was talking about – invisible, striving to be seen."



AMY SCHUMER: "Judd's the sweetest dude.

The most devout husband and father. Does not check out an ass going by – I think he'd die before he did that. Like a teddy bear with a penis."



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ON THE RECORD

BIG OPINIONS. NO FILTER.



THIS WEEK

What Alex Turner's new beard really means

SO NOW WE FINALLY know the real reason Alex Turner moved to Los Angeles. It wasn't to work on a killer new Arctic Monkeys album or for the easy access to delicious tacos; it was to use the sweet California sunshine to help his chin follicles flourish and grow a bloody man beard.

Last week, a blurry selfie taken by some holidaying Brits emerged, featuring the frontman at a hip LA bar sporting brand-new facial fuzz. The ever-boyish Turner has finally become a man and he's got the stubble to prove it; part Satan on his summer holiday, part Mr Tumnus at the Ace Hotel, but full legend. Sure, on the scale of rock 'n' roll beards Turner's topiary is a mere tiddler – ZZ Top's Billy Gibbons and Slayer's Kerry King would laugh him off the tour bus – but his

commitment to growing would make Monty Don proud.

Beards and rock 'n' roll have had a long, complicated history. When the genre first reared its head, it was as smooth as a Drake chat-up line. In their early days The Beatles and The Rolling Stones were fluff-free, but a few LSD trips and some dabblings in the occult later and out came the beards. A beard now is a sign of maturity, both physically and mentally – it's shorthand for, "I've seen some s**t, guys" – or, in the case of Bon Iver, "I've been super-sad and someone's locked me in a shed and won't give me a razor until I get over my girlfriend."

When it comes to the

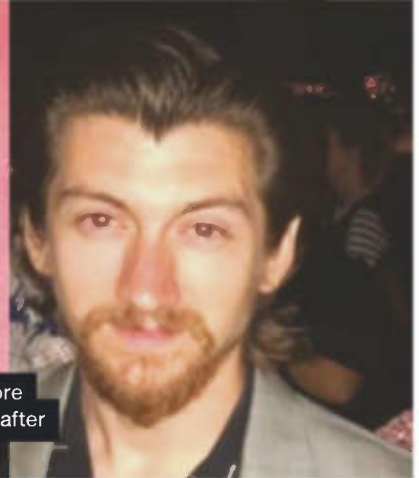
evolution of Turner, his beard is a sign of a new phase of life, much like his move from sportswear to leather or his discovery of hair gel, when he went from floppy-fringed indie kid to slicked-back bad boy. The beard means business – not to mention the fact that we're five Arctic Monkeys albums in and Turner is fully embracing his thirties. Expect him to be singing about the joys of Farrow & Ball paint and the importance of hop provenance in craft ale on the next record.

Much like the Beatles and Stones before him, the beard could also be a sign of sonic experimentation to come. Thom Yorke is always at his most creative when sporting a full-face bush, while funk pioneer George Clinton has long sported epic bristles. The same goes for production maestro Rick Rubin. Jack White, Eminem, Bob Dylan and Liam Gallagher have all also taken on the hairy trophy at various points in their career, seeking the kind of reverence that only comes along with whiskers.

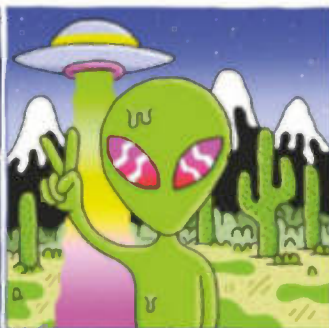
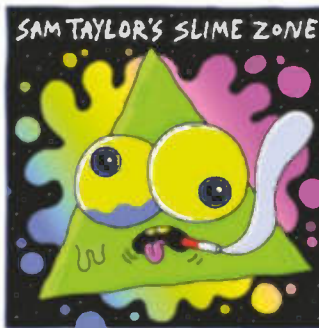
Alex, you had our respect all along, but now you most definitely have our attention too. @leoniemaycooper



Before and after



"A beard is shorthand for, 'I've seen some st'"**



PHOTOS: SAM CARGILLO, REX FEATURES

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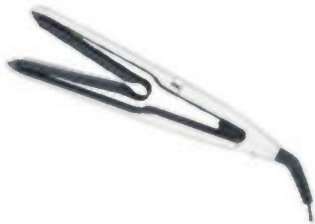
Key information
A Black Sabbath key fob will prove your metal credentials – and keep your keys safe.
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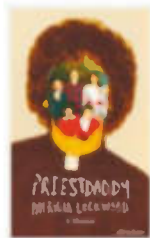
Sound advice
Wear Wraps headphones around your wrist when they're not in your ears.
£14.99 *mywraps.com*



Shorts story
ÒKUN means 'the ocean' in Yoruba. The brand's beachwear is lush.
£85 *brownsfashion.com*



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£79.99 *amazon.co.uk*



Beach read
Patricia Lockwood's debut novel *Priestdaddy* is fierce, funny and filthy.
£14.99 *foyles.co.uk*



Star crazy
Converse's new One Star suede sneakers are a summer must.
£65 *converse.com*



Shroomadelica
Artist Darren Newman's mushroom is our fave of these limited edition tees.
£80 *cmmnty.co*



Space, man
Luc Besson's *Valerian*... hits UK cinemas on August 4.
£14.99 *in-store and online hmv.com*



Lipa gloss
Dua Lipa has teamed up with MAC for her own pearl shimmer lip gloss.
£18 *maccosmetics.co.uk*



Style icon
This tee is covered with Polaroid snaps taken by cult stylist and artist Maripol.
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Willow

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Dagny

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Wednesday 16th August
SOLD OUT
Pulp Fiction
Artificial Pleasure

Sunday 27th August
Goodfellas
Lao Ra

Wednesday 30th August
SOLD OUT
True Romance
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What's ON your Headphones?

THIS WEEK

Ashford



< MATT VERRELL
32, waiter

Listening to:
BOOZE & GLORY
Blood From A Stone
"It's punk from the streets. I like the realness of it."

Wearing: Booze & Glory T-shirt, Levi's jeans, Dr Martens boots.
Best thing about Ashford: "Ashford International train station is very handy."

HARRY SEDDEN >
24, retail store manager

Listening to:
KUNGS FT. RAE MORRIS
Trust
"The rhythm's cool and it's really chill to listen to."

Wearing: Topman T-shirt, River Island jeans, All Saints shoes, Jack Wills bag.

Best thing about Ashford: "Paper Duck has an amazing Chinese buffet."



< SHOLA SMITH
19, CEX supervisor

Listening to:
LITTLE SIMZ FT. CHIP & GHETTS
King Of Hearts
"I just love her. She hasn't got enough recognition at the moment."

Wearing: H&M top, jeans from TK Maxx, Primark necklace.
Best thing about Ashford: "The local music scene is the best of anywhere I've ever lived."

"The local music scene is the best of anywhere I've ever lived"



SIRISHA CHHIBBER >
25, physiotherapy assistant

Listening to:
FKA TWIGS
I'm Your Doll
"I've only recently discovered her, but I'm already obsessed."

Wearing: River Island jacket, ASOS dress, Cute Japanese Fashion tights, Primark shoes.
Best thing about Ashford: "The countryside. It's the Garden of England."



PHOTOS: JOSEPHINE WEATHERLEY



THE SONGS OF THE SUMMER

TFIS! A time for kicking back, hitting the beach or whiling away the evening in a beer garden. And – of course – listening to amazing pop music. Here are the tracks that'll be melting your ears this summer. Head to [NME.com](https://www.nme.com) for a playlist

WORDS BY LEDNIE CDDPER, MARK BEAUMDNT AND LARRY BARTLEET



THE ONE FOR CORNETTO TIME

PHOENIX

Fior Di Latte

Why it's great: That moment when you hit the ocean road and slide the top down – that's what Phoenix have captured on this sublime, sun-dappled track that sounds like 10cc's 'I'm Not In Love' guzzling choc ices on a Miami Beach lounger.

Summeriest moment: "There's no seasons in LA," lilts Thomas Mars, sounding slightly mournful.

They say: Guitarist Laurent Brancowitz has claimed the band's new album is inspired by "summer and Italian discos". If only everything was.



THE ONE FOR GETTING YOUR FREAK ON

SZA

Drew Barrymore

Why it's great: This track might be a reflection on self-doubt, but it's hotter than a Saturday night in a hot tub. Perfect for seduction.

Summeriest moment: "Am I warm enough for ya... Is it warm enough for ya, inside me?" Cold showers all round.

They say: "Drew is the quintessential beautiful, quirky girl that's comfortable being herself. She's a boss" – SZA.



THE ONE FOR SWEATY NIGHTS AT THE CLUB

KENDRICK LAMAR
HUMBLE.

Why it's great: The lead track from 'DAMN.' isn't just proof that Kendrick is 2017's finest MC: it shows he knows how to create a tune that's as hot as his bars.

Summeriest moment: Every time the "Sit down, be humble" chorus comes around, it's like a blast of serious seasonal heat. Insert fire emoji here.

They say: "When you listen to records like 'PRIDE.', 'HUMBLE.', 'LUST.' and 'LOVE.', these are all just human emotions and me looking in the mirror and coming to grips with them" – Kendrick Lamar.



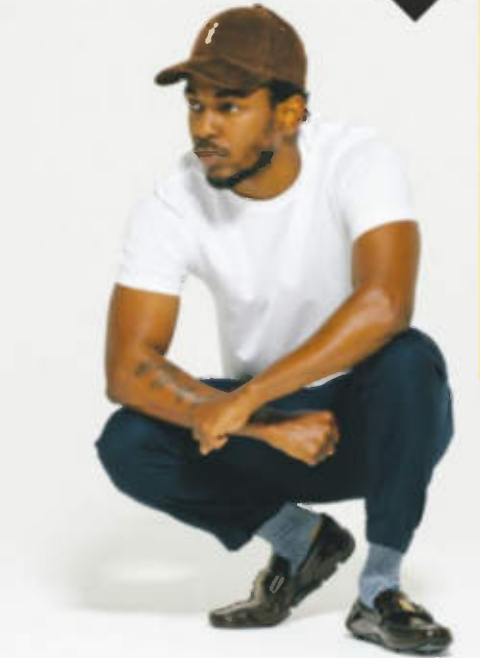
THE ONE FOR DANCING IN THE STREETS

BONZAI
I Feel Alright

Why it's great: Take equal parts M.I.A., Charli XCX and Major Lazer and you've got 'I Feel Alright', a dancefloor-ready banger produced by Mura Masa. Could it be any more 2017?

Summeriest moment: That pre-chorus build. It's your cue to break out of the office and twerk against your boss. Don't tell HR.

They say: "It's about the feeling of being lost, which I think everyone feels at some stage, but then it's like, it could be worse and it can always get better" – Bonzai.



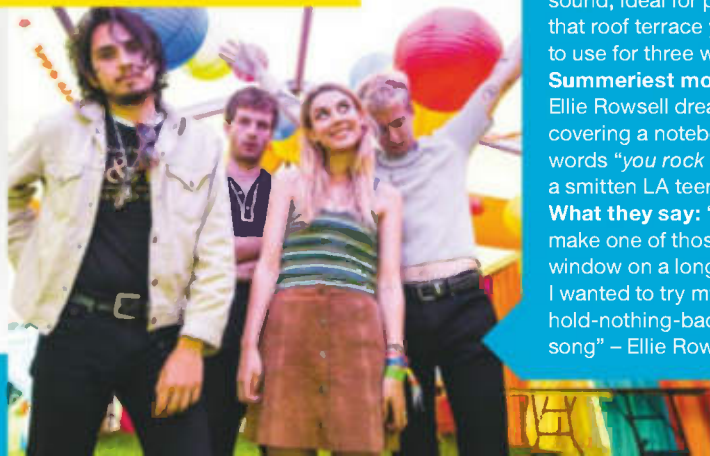
THE ONE FOR MIDNIGHT ROOFTOP SNOGS

WOLF ALICE
Don't Delete The Kisses

Why it's great: Here, Wolf Alice conjure a twilit cityscape of sound, ideal for pumping from that roof terrace you only get to use for three weeks a year.

Summeriest moment: Singer Ellie Rowsell dreaming of giddily covering a notebook with the words "you rock my world" like a smitten LA teen flick heroine.

What they say: "I wanted to make one of those 'head out the window on a long drive' tunes. I wanted to try my hand at a hold-nothing-back love song" – Ellie Rowsell.





THE ONE FOR WHEN IT'S TOO HOT

LANA DEL REY FT. A\$AP
ROCKY Summer Bummer

Why it's great: This saucy slow jam is summer at its sultriest, for those nights when you have all the windows open and a fan constantly pointed at your sweaty bits. Old musical sparring partners Del Rey and A\$AP are never anything less than steamy.

Summeriest moment: Lana's laid-back lines, on which she sounds even drowsier than usual. Get her antihistamines, stat.

They say: "There probably are a lot of tracks somewhere that we're both on over the years. We do 'em and forget 'em and if one's better than all of them, like this one, we try to put it out"
– Lana Del Rey.



THE ONE FOR #SUMMERBAE

DJ KHALED FT. RIHANNA
Wild Thoughts

Why it's great: Rihanna does most of the work on this sizzling flamenco track, and Rihanna is the greatest pop star in the world. But then there's the OTT Santana sample and the smoky contribution from Bryson Tiller. That's some strangely sexy alchemy at work right there.

Summeriest moment: The sultry Spanish guitar line underpinning each of the verses. 'Despacito', eat your heart out.

They say: "I had this idea for years. I wanted for it to be the right time, but also to make sure I put the right artist on there and I knew for me to flip this record I wanted Rihanna. I didn't have a Plan B" – DJ Khaled.



THE ONE FOR TEQUILA-FUELLED NIGHTS

LORDE
Supercut

Why it's great: If you're too short on time to listen to all of Lorde's masterful 'Melodrama', make do with its literal 'Supercut', which distills Lorde's widescreen world of post-break-up emotion into one dancefloor-ready night.

Summeriest moment: The rhythm of the piano line on the chorus here sounds like Whigfield's 'Saturday Night', and that was summery AF.

They say: "I wanted it to feel like you were through the wall from a party. I liked the idea of this party leaking over" – Lorde.



THE ONE FOR A SUMMER WEDDING

ARCADE FIRE
Everything Now

Why it's great: It sounds like ABBA. Oh, and the panpipes. And that rousing "nah-nah" bit.

Summeriest moment: That piano line. We knew Arcade Fire were classy, but this kind of shimmering majesty is some next-level shiz.

They say: "It was kind of an accident to be honest. I was working on a remix of ['The Coffee Cola Song' by Francis Bebey] and just ended up writing a completely different song around it without even thinking about it" – Win Butler.



THE ONE FOR THE IRISH PUB

ED SHEERAN
Galway Girl

Why it's great: 'Galway Girl' is either the most irritating song of the year or the most fun you can have with your felt Guinness hat on, depending on which side of the Great 'Galway Girl' Debate you're on – an issue that's split the country more than Brexit.

Summeriest moment: Has any line said 'p**sed-up summer fling' more than "I walked her home, then she took me inside / To finish some Doritos and another bottle of wine"?

They say: "...There's 400 million people in the world that say they're Irish, even if they're not... And those type of people are going to f**king love it" – Ed Sheeran.



THE ONE FOR POST-BANANA BOAT SEASICKNESS

MURA MASA FT. A\$AP ROCKY
Love\$ick

Why it's great: This tropical smooth cut is built on the sort of house piano, marimba and terrace horn blasts that'll make your local Club Fingerbang feel like Rio Carnival.

Summeriest moment: When the steel drums kick in. I mean, when did you last see someone playing steel drums in drizzle?

They say: "It's been amazing for me to see people, real people care about this, beyond numbers ticking up on the internet" – Mura Masa.

THE ONE FOR ROMANTIC BEACH FROLICS

MILEY CYRUS
Malibu

Why it's great: It's a folkish frolic that perfectly captures the romance of snuggling up in the surf at sunset (even if lines like "The sky's so blue in Malibu, next to you" don't sound quite as exotic in Walton-on-the-Naze).

Summeriest moment: "We are just like the waves that flow back and forth" Miley muses, and who among us can say we haven't thought the same while dosed up on ketamine in Ayia Napa?

They say: "Why not put the power back in my relationship and say, 'This is how I feel'?" – Miley Cyrus.



THE ONE FOR YOUR FISHING TRIP

CALVIN HARRIS FT. PHARRELL WILLIAMS, KATY PERRY & BIG SEAN
Feels

Why it's great: With this cast list, 'Feels' was never going to be anything less than epic. Catchier than chlamydia on *Love Island*.

Summeriest moment: When Perry chimes in with "Don't be afraid to catch feels" and you're convinced she's saying "Don't be afraid to catch fish". We love flicking our rod too, Katy!

They say: "I wanna thank every artist on the album for not only keeping an open mind, but also then knocking it out the park" – Calvin Harris.



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THE ONE FOR BACK-TO-SCHOOL FEELINGS

SELENA GOMEZ
Bad Liar

Why it's great: A totem of the sophisticated pop that's been surging through in 2017, 'Bad Liar' consists of a simple beat, a three-note Talking Heads bassline (from 'Psycho Killer') and icy vocals about suppressing a crush. May cause brain-freeze.

Summeriest moment: The sunny pat-a-cake claps throughout.

They say: "It's one of the most nerve-wracking things in the world to sample one of the greatest bands of all time. I just wanted it to be really simple and beautiful and refreshing" – Selena Gomez.

THE ONE FOR PLAYING IT COOL

TOVE STYRKE
Say My Name

Why it's great: The Swedish star's new tune loops around a laid-back ukulele line, but with its perky beats and vocal flourishes it also manages to be a total bop – proving you can have your deliciously chilled ice-cream cake and eat it too.

Summeriest moment: The pre-chorus synth screech – it's like a funky pop macaw.

They say: "This is the best thing I've ever created and I'm so proud of it. This song is basically just, 'I like you, can we just be together, don't complicate it'" – Tove Styrke.



THE ONE FOR STORMY NIGHTS

LIL UZI VERT
XO Tour Llif3

Why it's great: The Philly rapper found fame on this languid trap banger, which has been the sound of the summer since it was released back in March. Moody as anything, it's as close as a sticky summer's evening.

Summeriest moment: If you thought a man saying "All my friends are dead" over melted beats wasn't summery, then be prepared to be proved very wrong indeed.

They say: "It's trap singing. It's fun. It sounds good and girls like it" – Lil Uzi Vert.



THE ONE FOR THE FESTIVAL PRE-LASH

THE KILLERS
The Man

Why it's great: Brandon Flowers marches back into the fray with the swagger of a Gallagher and the beat of a Bee Gee – and the balls of a bull elephant. This single is among the band's brightest ever tunes and is boldly applying for the job of dancefloor filler of the summer.

Summeriest moment: Those 'Stayin' Alive' harmonies are as Club Tropicana as an inflatable pool sofa.

They say: "Around about the time that The Killers start is when 'The Man' hearkens back to. It was nice to go back and inhabit that character, that figure, that version of myself for a song" – Brandon Flowers.



THE ONE FOR ROAD TRIPS

HAIM

Want You Back

Why it's great: A summer playlist without a song from California girls Haim would be a very poor summer playlist indeed. With its highway-ready harmonies and singalong chorus, 'Want You Back' is one for blasting from the car speakers as you hit the road and drive out to the desert – or Torbay.

Summeriest moment: That woozy opener, as Danielle Haim does her best Stevie Nicks impression and muses on her "wandering heart".

They say: "I don't fully understand my feelings until the song's done and out in the world... I think I'm gonna start to figure out what a lot of these new songs mean in two months, or something" – Danielle Haim.

THE ONE FOR THROWING FESTIVAL SHAPES

CONFIDENCE MAN

Boyfriend (Repeat)

Why it's great: The bassline on this thing is so funky you could smell it all the way from Brisbane. Musically heirs to The B-52's, Yeah Yeah Yeahs or CSS, their lyrics blast a needy BF for cooking elaborate breakfasts and wanting to talk all the time.

Summeriest moment: Just before the final chorus, where vocalist Janet Planet commands: "Get down!" At this, reader, thou shalt indeed get down.

They say: "For us, the band is kind of this new and exciting thing where the whole point is about dancing and getting down" – Janet Planet.



THE ONE FOR YOUR MARBS TRIP

LUIS FONSI FT. JUSTIN BIEBER

Despacito

Why it's great: A beach bar favourite that, translated, includes the lines, "We will do it on the beach in Puerto Rico / 'Til the waves scream 'Dear Lord' / So that my seal stays with you". Remember: when on holiday, never accept a stranger's seal.

Summeriest moment: The bit where Daddy Yankee says "Bom bom" and we realise that he's now talking about arses.

They say: "At no time was I trying to write a crossover record!" – Luis Fonsi.





Save our scenes

Selfridges' Ultralounge, the world's first in-store music venue, looks to put gigging back on the map

OK, HERE'S THE BAD news. The Music Venue Trust charity estimates that 40 per cent of grassroots venues – small, intimate live music spaces in which emerging artists can cut their teeth – have disappeared in the past 10 years. This dizzying decline has been attributed to a perfect storm of increased rent prices and restrictive licensing laws.

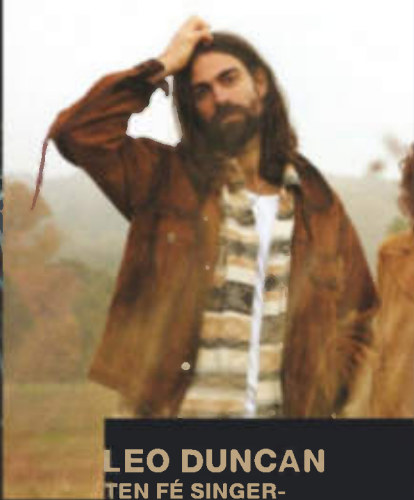
The good news? The *Music Matters at Selfridges* campaign hopes to help with three months of in-store events in London, Birmingham and Manchester, plus a host of other musical

events such as DJ sets and a pop-up record store.

In London, artists including the indie band Ten Fé, south London rappers 67 and R&B star Mabel will perform in the Ultralounge, a multidiscipline performance space and the world's first department store music venue, with 20 per cent of profits donated to the Music Venue Trust. Some of the artists involved told *NME* why *Music Matters*.

Tickets are available now at www.selfridges.com/musicmatters





LEO DUNCAN
TEN FÉ SINGER-
SONGWRITER

Forty per cent of grassroots venues have gone in the last 10 years. Could that be a problem for bands in the future?

It's already changed the live music scene, as fewer bands can go about those early stages by developing in a live arena. Nowadays, you attract attention by setting things up online, rather than getting out and learning whether a song works live.

Could that mean buzzy bands are quickly thrust into playing big shows that they're not necessarily prepared for?

Yeah, it puts artists in a place where they're trying to deliver the final product from the word go. Everyone grows when they play a lot live. It's a big thing to be losing that way of developing.

What's been a standout show for Ten Fé?

Bonnaroo Festival in Tennessee. It was just dangerous, man. We were like five Forrest Gumps running towards 3,000 Americans! But we could never have done that show unless we'd done 40 smaller shows during our West Coast tour in the three months before it.

Favourite grassroots venue: Oslo, Hackney

We used to live just around the corner and walk up there twice a week to busk. We used to say, "We're f**king definitely gonna play there one day." When we finally did, it was a very deep thing.

DIMZY
MC IN RAP CREW 67

Have you faced challenges when attempting to book shows?

They say the urban events are gonna cause violence or destruction of the venues, so they lock it off. People can't really progress because of how many restrictions and boundaries there are against urban music.

What's been your best experience in a small venue?

That was in Bedford in 2015. We didn't go there in the best of cars – it was an old Hyundai – and we had to park around the corner so that no girls would see it. At that time 'Skengman' had just come out so people were buzzing for that. That stage was one of the tightest stages I've ever been on. It was crazy!

Are you concerned about the decline of grassroots live spaces?

Yeah, it doesn't let anyone have their little start-up in their career. Everyone needs to help each other to improve the situation, to be honest. They need to make these small venues that will allow all these other artists to climb up and reach the big venues.

Favourite grassroots venue: Blueprint, Leicester

Bugzy Malone was there, Giggs was there. The energy was crazy and it was amazing seeing people from another city saying our lyrics religiously.



MABEL MCVEY
R&B SINGER

Why did you decided to get involved in the Music Matters campaign?

I got a taste of being a performer in small venues and I think it's really important to have those opportunities. It really helped my confidence. Standing in a room of 50 people who aren't even there to listen to you – that's terrifying.

What is it about grassroots live spaces that makes them so vital to emerging talent?

If you're young, you don't have a manager and you don't know where to start, those small spaces are important for a sense of community and finding like-minded people. I met a lot of people that way and ended up writing music with them. [The current situation] is a tragedy.

What's been a really memorable live experience in a small venue?

Notting Hill Arts Club was incredible; it was super-intimate. At the time I thought, "Is it a bit embarrassing that I'm playing [in such a small place]?", but actually it was really important to my career.

Favourite grassroots venue: Moth Club, east London

It's one of those places with a great atmosphere. It's got these funny glittery curtains; there's a bit of a Liberace vibe. It feels like a Las Vegas show.



RADAR

THIS WEEK'S ESSENTIAL NEW RELEASES

Best NEW tracks And when to drop them

BEST FOR RETRO PARTYING

PATIENCE

White Of An Eye

Channelling The Human League and New Order, Roxanne Clifford – formerly of Veronica Falls – delivers a lush electropop party tune.

BEST FOR HEARTACHE

PHOEBE BRIDGERS

Motion Sickness

LA-based Bridgers has all the traces of a special songwriter. Her newly announced album 'Stranger In The Alps' looks like being one of the year's low-key breakthroughs.

BEST FOR WEARING LEGGINGS

SAMANTHA URBANI

Hints And Implications

The Friends frontwoman goes solo on this hard-edged 1980s power-pop triumph.

BEST FOR THE HEART EYES EMOJI

CHARLI XCX

Boys

Daydreaming about your crush comes repackaged as chiptune balladry, courtesy of UK pop's most badass star.

BEST FOR DANCEFLOOR SHIMMYING

DORNIK

God Knows

Sweet vintage R&B with a distinctly modern twist, 'God Knows' is a hip-shaking delight.

BEST FOR APOLOGISING

NOTHING BUT THIEVES

Sorry

The Southend rockers go all moody on this lovelorn alt-ballad.

BEST FOR BBQ PLAYLISTS

SNAKEHIPS

Either Way

Anne-Marie and Joey Bada\$\$ join the UK production duo for a laid-back weekend banger.

BEST FOR TOUGH TIMES

SKINNY LIVING

Why

Tackling the hugely important issue of depression, 'Why' is as emotional as it is stirring.

BEST FOR GAZING AT THE HORIZON

THE WAR ON DRUGS

Strangest Thing

At nearly seven minutes long, this is a song to properly sink yourself into – lush, heartfelt Americana that'll have you swooning.

BEST FOR GETTING SHIVERS

RATIONALE

Loving Life

London-based soul sensation Rationale has one of the most powerful voices around. Stunning.

CHARLI XCX

PHOTOS: BELLA HOWARD

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Hollywood forever

A banquet of lush orchestration and high-end guests

LANA DEL REY

Lust For Life



AMERICANA WOOLLY BALLADS

LANA DEL REY IS many things to many people, not least herself. She is at once the doomed starlet, a Trump-hexing love witch, a 'gangster Nancy Sinatra' and, most importantly, a hugely successful global recording artist with four major label albums under her slinky belt. Her moody, vintage-indebted sound is now so distinct that it's practically its own sub-genre,

defined by its drowsy doo-wop stylings, laced with trap production and film-score-worthy theatrics.

'Lust For Life' deals with themes that'll be familiar to Lana devotees; faded Hollywood glamour, skewed Americana and terrible love. But

this time around, Lana is even more grandiose than usual, with lush, sweeping orchestration draped elegantly over each of the album's 16 tracks. An epic

proposition, it's her longest album yet and starts as it means to go on with the shimmering, cinematic 'Love'.

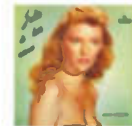
A post-modernist playground, the iconic pop cultural references run wild throughout. 'Cherry' knowingly

quotes Patsy Cline's 1961 country standard 'I Fall To Pieces'; 'Coachella – Woodstock in My Mind' namedrops Led Zeppelin's 'Stairway To Heaven'; the Sean Ono Lennon-featuring 'Tomorrow Never Came' is an all-out love song to The Beatles – and Elton John; and album closer 'Get Free' lifts more than some might think seemingly from Radiohead's 'Creep', as well as dropping some Neil Young lyrics along the way.

The guests are almost as high-end as the references, with Stevie Nicks showing up on 'Beautiful People Beautiful Problems' to offer a husky glance into Lana's future, and old-school collaborator A\$AP Rocky lending his bars to two tracks, 'Summer Bummer' and 'Groupie Love'.

However, with such defined sonic parameters

– and so many damn tracks – there are moments where Lana verges upon becoming a parody of herself, notably on title track 'Lust For Life', as she deadpan purrs "take off, take off, take off all your clothes" before a fabulous falsetto turn from The Weeknd. Sure, it's a bit silly, but also utterly fabulous too – and that's why we love Lana so. **Leonie Cooper**



JULIE LONDON
Julie Is Her Name (1955)

Sumptuous retro torch songs from the husky-voiced Californian jazz singer.

Everything wow

Four years on from 'Reflektor', the Canadian art-rockers are bigger, bolder and more fearful for the future than ever on their colossal fifth album

ARCADE FIRE

Everything Now



TECHNOLOGY DISCO

ARCADE FIRE HAVE spent their career making a virtue of their own pomposity. Since 2004 debut 'Funeral', they've been unafraid to wrestle with big ideas that most bands wouldn't touch with a bargepole. It can appear as though they believe society's ills can be solved – or at least diagnosed – through the medium of grandiose art-rock, but you have to admire their

conviction that music ought to represent something more than mere 'content'. Thankfully, after 2013's ambitious but uneven



'Reflektor', 'Everything Now' marks an emphatic return to those lofty standards.

"Every song that I've ever heard / Is

playing at the same time, it's absurd," declares starry-eyed frontman Win Butler on the album's title track, which is certainly one way to describe its mash-up of ABBA's 'Dancing Queen' and Talking Heads' 'Road To Nowhere'. Uplifting, incisive and sublime would

be another. On the flipside, the empty hedonism of 'Signs Of Life' and the suicidal youths of 'Creature Comfort' – one of whom, Butler notes, "came so close / Filled up the bathtub and put on our first record" – serve as a reminder of the cruel irony that, in this age of total connectivity, we've somehow contrived to make ourselves more isolated than ever. 'Everything Now' might marvel at how far we've come, but it's tempered by notes of dread at where we're going.

Aptly enough for a record about information overload, it's also had the veritable kitchen sink thrown at it, employing myriad styles, multiple big-name producers and the sort of ingenious, overblown marketing campaign that's become the norm for this band. On the two-hander of

'Infinite Content' and 'Infinite_Content', the same song is presented in contrasting styles – a knowing postmodern thrash and a languid acoustic ramble – but ultimately it's the album's sense of humanity, not its innate clever-cleverness, that elevates it to something special.

"If you can't see the forest for the trees / Just burn it all down," urges Butler, no longer sermonising from his pulpit but howling in empathy from the ether as the mournful synthpop of closing track 'We Don't Deserve Love' builds to its climax. **Barry Nicolson**

STRANGE & TRUE

Those pan flutes you hear on 'Everything Now' are actually a sample from 'The Coffee Cola Song' by Cameroonian electronic artist Francis Bebey, often regarded as the father of world music.

ALBUM OF THE WEEK



(L-r.) Jeremy Gara, Win Butler, Will Butler, Régine Chassagne, Tim Kingsbury, Richard Reed Parry

PHOTO: GUY AROCH



Kumail Nanjiani as himself, with Zoe Kazan as his real-life girlfriend Emily

Modern love

A good romcom! Courtesy of Kumail Nanjiani, with help from Judd Apatow

THE BIG SICK

15 Kumail Nanjiani, Zoe Kazan, Holly Hunter, Ray Romano



IT'S BEEN QUITE A WHILE since we've seen a really good romcom. Even just the term 'romcom' has probably made a good proportion of you switch off, bringing to mind Katherine Heigl or Anne Hathaway playing clumsy women who work with cakes falling for expensively jumped B-list men who are extremely wealthy but,

like, so normal. *The Big Sick* is a reminder of what a great romcom should be: the story of two people who are excellent on their own but even better together.

Based on the real-life relationship of comedian Kumail Nanjiani (*Silicon Valley*) and Emily V Gordon, a writer and producer, *The Big Sick* actually has the fundamentals of a pretty depressing story. Kumail (Nanjiani, playing himself) is a Muslim Pakistani-American whose parents want him to marry a girl from the same background. Barely observant of his religion, Kumail just dates who he wants and doesn't tell his parents. He finds someone

special in Emily (Zoe Kazan), but his refusal to tell his family about her drives them apart.

This issue is dwarfed when Emily becomes ill and is put into a coma. Kumail stays at Emily's bedside, with her parents (Holly Hunter and Ray Romano, being an absolute treat), getting to know more about her and feeling closer to her, while her feelings are on pause.

There's a lot of blackness there from which to find humour and *The Big Sick* mines enormous amounts. Before things get weird, it establishes loveable characters, which lets it go to dark places without losing the warmth. Both Nanjiani

and Kazan are adorable but not sickly, and the film doesn't treat Kumail as some hero for 'sticking by' his sick not-quite-girlfriend. It plays with the shiver of creepiness in his courtship of someone unconscious, and there are consequences to his lying to everyone, as there should be. It carries all this weight – plus the politics of being Muslim in Trump's America – like it's featherlight, with frequent belly laughs. It's brilliant. Easily the funniest comedy of the year so far.

Ollie Richards

FOR FANS OF



WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING



TRAINWRECK

Women behaving badly

Rude and raunchy road-trip vibes

GIRLS TRIP

15 Jada Pinkett Smith, Queen Latifah, Regina Hall, Tiffany Haddish



REUNION GROSS-OUT COMEDY

"I'M NOT SITTING NEXT to Jaden and Trey watching this, that's for doggone sure," joked *Girls Trip* star Jada Pinkett Smith in a recent interview about the prospect of her kids seeing her new film. "[Willow] wanted to go to the premiere and I said, 'Oh no. We won't be doing that. Nah.'"

Girls Trip is, without doubt, for adults: a funny and filthy mix of d**k jokes, bar fights and public urination that sees lifelong friends

Ryan, Sasha, Lisa and Dina (AKA the Flossy Posse) travelling to New Orleans for Essence Festival, an annual celebration of black sisterhood. After five years of not seeing each other, they hope to rekindle friendships that careers, partners and babies have come between with a brash and boozy weekend. What follows is a riotous flick that breathes fresh life into the tired bachelor genre usually dominated by men in films like *The Hangover*, *Due Date* and *Wedding Crashers*.

Pinkett Smith shines as Lisa,

the buttoned-up single mother with a wild past. Queen Latifah is on form as the gossipy Sasha. Regina Hall's Ryan is a high-powered celebrity trapped in a sham marriage.

The star of the show, however, is newcomer Tiffany Haddish as fierce, sex-obsessed Dina. One jaw-dropping set-piece sees her suspended on a zip wire 15 feet above Bourbon Street, her bladder bursting at just the wrong moment. These grosser gags may put some off, but most will cry with laughter. When these four share the screen, sparks fly and the chemistry is perfect. **Alex Flood**

STRANGE & TRUE

Girls Trip reunites Queen Latifah and Jada Pinkett Smith 20 years after they co-starred in *Set It Off*.



(L-r:) Regina Hall, Tiffany Haddish, Jada Pinkett Smith and Queen Latifah

YOU HEARD IT HERE FIRST

Sundara Karma

Playful and punchy indie-rock

BEFORE THEY FINISH conquering this summer's festivals, Reading indie lads Sundara Karma swung by NME & BFI present CineJam supported by Zig-Zag to play a super-intimate set to a handful of lucky fans. We caught up with Oscar Pollock (vocals/guitar)

and Haydn Evans (drums) to talk about their debut album 'Youth Is Only Ever Fun In Retrospect', and future aspirations.

You released your debut album at the start of the year. Has 2017 panned out how you thought it would?

Oscar: "It's hard to plan this kind of stuff. There were a lot of people that weren't so sure about us. But you put out an album and you don't really think too much about what or where it's gonna take you. It's been [the organic growth from our shows that's really pushed us over the line for people to be like, 'OK, yeah, we like this.'"

So many bands get rushed into releasing a record before they're quite ready. Did you feel 100% prepared when you released yours?

Oscar: "No, the record we put out originally wasn't even the record we wanted to put out! We recently put out the longer, updated version of the album, which is where we wanted to go with it from the start, but we couldn't convince enough people to do it. When you're 21, I don't know how ready you can be."

You played NME CineJam before *The Big Lebowski* was screened. What kind of films do you watch on tour?

Oscar: "On tour, you need comfort – romcoms are always

really good for that. Anything with Adam Sandler, too."

Haydn: "It's all pretty s**t stuff, really."

If you were approached to write a film soundtrack, would you jump at the opportunity?

Oscar: "If it was a Disney film, that would be sick! The *Tarzan* soundtrack and *The Lion King* soundtrack were the first bodies of work I got into – I had them on cassette. I was obsessed."

Jamie Milton

Sundara Karma played NME & BFI present CineJam supported by Zig-Zag at Rooftop Film Club, Peckham, a series of summer music and film events curated by Bastille's Dan Smith. Visit NME.com for more info



PHOTO: AMBER POLLACK

Sundara Karma (l-r): Ally Baty, Oscar Pollock, Haydn Evans, Dom Cordell

STRANGE & TRUE FOR FANS OF

The band's most sought-after piece of merch is branded underwear, as seen in the video for their song 'She Said'.



FDALS



THE WAR ON DRUGS

DETAILS

Based: Reading

Social: @SundaraKarma

Buy: 'Youth Is Only Ever Fun In Retrospect' is out now
Live: Reading Festival (Aug 26), Leeds Festival (Aug 27), O2 Academy Brixton, London (Oct 5)

Best track

'FLAME'

A bombastic riff and killer chorus combine for this soaring anthem.

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BAKERMAT LIVE



DUSKY LIVE



EXAMPLE - LIVE



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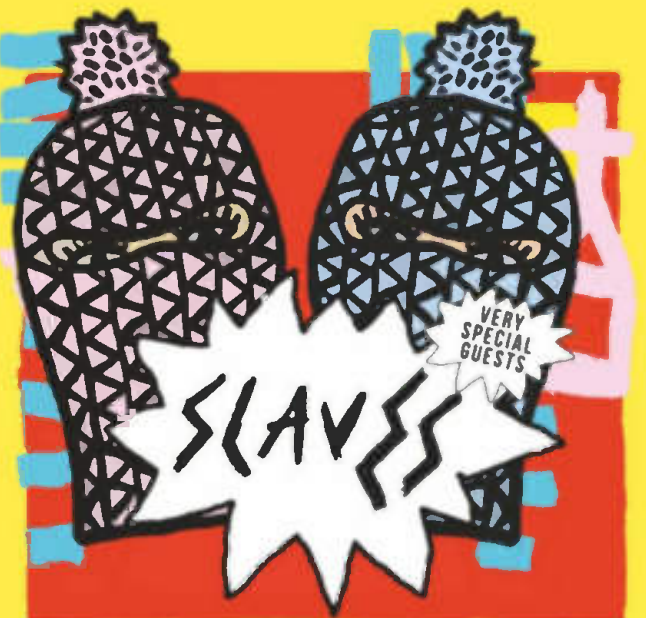
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live

THIS WEEK'S BEST TICKETS AND GIGS



Fire fighters

Montreal's Arcade Fire are coming to rescue us with their woke fifth album

THE MARKETING BEHIND Arcade Fire's new album 'Everything Now' has been ultra-self-aware. Skewering 2017's instant-grat culture, it's involved a fictional entity (the Everything Now Corp) that spews out something they're calling Infinite Content. The latter is also the name of a song on the

album and the name of this very tour, if they keep this up, their gigs risk being so unflattering to the internet age that their audience members quit Instagram en masse. But that's not to suggest they're not still capable of providing a banging party atmosphere. At their recent UK warm-up gigs, the six-piece turned up the carnival vibes in an inclusive in-the-round setup – and they'll be keeping that formation across all four arenas they play next year.

ARCADE FIRE

Canadian indie-rock royalty

APRIL 2018

Sun 8 Arena, Manchester

Wed 11 & Thu 12 SSE

Arena Wembley, London

Sun 15 Genting Arena, Birmingham

Mon 16 SSE Hydro, Glasgow

TICKETS: £55

ON SALE NOW

**ON SALE
NOW**

LITTLE CUB

South London trio

SEPTEMBER

FRI 1 Broadcast,
Glasgow

SAT 2 Rebellion,

Manchester **SUN 3**

Louisiana, Bristol **MON 4**

Oslo, London **SUN 10**

Forum, Tunbridge Wells

MON 1 Joiners,

Southampton **TUE 12**

Purple Turtle, Reading

WED 13 Horn, St Albans

THU 14 Railway,

Winchester **FRI 15**

Booking Hall, Dover

OCTOBER

SUN 1 Broadcast,

Glasgow **TUE 3**

Louisiana, Bristol **WED 4**

Oslo, London

TELL ME MORE:

Little Cub make vibey
electro with brilliantly
cynical lyrics.

TICKETS: £4-£9



PUSSY RIOT

Hardcore Russian punks

NOVEMBER

FRI 17 Islington Assembly
Hall, London **SAT 18**

Marble Factory, Bristol

SUN 19 Haunt, Brighton

MON 20 Gorilla,

Manchester **TUE 21** Oran

Mor, Glasgow

TELL ME MORE:

The notorious feminist
band last played the UK
in 2015.

TICKETS: £16.88



MYSTERY JETS

Indie legends

SEPTEMBER

MON 25, TUE 26, THU 28, FRI 29, SAT 30
Garage, London

TELL ME MORE:

At each of these 'Jetrospective' gigs, the London band are playing an album in full – from 'Making Dens' to 'Curve Of The Earth'.

TICKETS: £28-28.25

JOE FOX

A\$AP Rocky's soulful British protégé

OCTOBER

WED 4 Think Tank?, Newcastle **THU 5** Garage Attic, Glasgow **FRI 6** Studio 2, Liverpool **WED 11** Moth Club, London **THU 12** Hare & Hounds, Birmingham **FRI 13** Brudenell Social Club, Leeds **SAT 14** Record Junkee, Sheffield

TELL ME MORE: Fox has yet to release an album, but he appeared five times on 'At.Long. Last.A\$AP'.

TICKETS: £6.60-£9

SÄLEN

Sardonic London trio

OCTOBER

TUE 17 Gullivers, Manchester **WED 18** Exchange, Bristol **THU 19** Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham **SAT 21** Patterns, Brighton **WED 25** Oslo, London

TELL ME MORE: This minimalist electro group deal in barbed lines and unrelenting hooks.

TICKETS: £7-£8

live



BLOODY KNEES

THE WEEK'S BEST GIGS

BLOODY KNEES

Sat 29 Sebright Arms, London

DEAD!

Wed 2 Opium, Edinburgh
Thu 3 Think Tank? Underground, Newcastle

DMA'S

Mon 31 Waterfront, Norwich
Tue 1 The Engine Shed, Lincoln
Wed 2 The Welly Club, Hull

FEEDER

Fri 28 The Watering Hole, Perranporth

FEIST

Fri 28 & Sat 29 O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire, London

FOURS

Sat 29 Strings Bar & Venue, Newport

FRANKIE COSMOS

Fri 28 The Haunt, Brighton
Mon 31 The Moon,

Cardiff

Tue 1 TheMagnet, Liverpool
Thu 3 La Belle Angele, Edinburgh

GOAT

Sat 29 O2 Academy, Brixton

JAMES

Sat 29 Times Square, Newcastle

KATE NASH

Tue 1 The Queen's Hall, Edinburgh
Thu 3 Church, Leeds

KIT DOWNES

Tue 1 The Vortex Jazz Club, London

LIAM BAILEY

Fri 28 MK11 Live Music Venue & Sports Bar, Milton Keynes

THE LIBERTINES

Thu 3 Times Square, Newcastle

MIKE SKINNER

Fri 28 Camden Assembly, London

RIDE

Fri 28 XOYO, London

SOCCER MOMMY

Wed 2 The Hope & Ruin, Brighton
Thu 3 The Islington, London

TINIE TEMPAH

Sun 30 Jackson's Landing, Hartlepool

UNKLE

Thu 3 Ultralounge – Selfridges, London

PHOTOS: ALAMY, AMY BEASLEY, GETTY, REX



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O₂ ACADEMY BRIXTON

FRI 24 NOV 2017
O₂ APOLLO MANCHESTER

SAT 25 NOV 2017
O₂ ACADEMY BOURNEMOUTH

SUN 26 NOV 2017
NORWICH, UEA



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SOUNDTRACK OF MY LIFE

Alice Cooper

Shock-rock legend

THE FIRST SONG I REMEMBER HEARING

CHUCK BERRY

Maybelline

"I lived in Detroit and my parents were very much into music. My Dad was a big band guy. I remember my uncle coming over and putting a 45 on and it was Chuck Berry. I thought it was the greatest thing I'd ever heard. Chuck Berry was the basis of everything that we do and the greatest lyricist of all time – he could tell a story in three minutes. That's how I learned to write."

THE FIRST ALBUM I BOUGHT

THE BEACH BOYS

All Summer Long

"I was a big Beach Boys fan because we listened to Top 40 radio all the time on our little transistor radios and the Top 40 was the king of everything. The Beach Boys were America's Beatles – they could do no wrong. Everything they did was great."



THE BEACH BOYS



NIRVANA

THE SONG I WISH I'D WRITTEN

NIRVANA

Smells Like Teen Spirit

"[Aerosmith's] 'Dude (Looks Like A Lady)' I should have written. 'Smells Like Teen Spirit' I should have written. Those were songs that were right up Alice Cooper's alley. There are some songs that are just so good, you sit there and you go, 'I could never write that,' but those two were two that I really should have written."

THE SONG I CAN NO LONGER LISTEN TO

ROY ORBISON

Oh, Pretty Woman

"I love Roy Orbison and then Van Halen had the nerve to do it again. It was great when it came out, [but] it just got overplayed and 'Brown Eyed Girl' is getting like that too. You turn the radio on and that song is just on all the time."

GO TO NME.COM FOR MORE SOUNDTRACKS

THE FIRST GIG I WENT TO

THE ROLLING STONES

"I'm very proud of this: I went to see The Rolling Stones at this gigantic arena. It was the coolest thing. We didn't know what production was – there was no [special] lighting then, just white lights."

THE SONG THAT CHANGED MY LIFE

THE BEATLES

She Loves You

"It was the first song by The Beatles I ever heard and it literally changed something in my brain. It inspired what Alice Cooper became."



THE BEATLES

THE SONG THAT MAKES ME DANCE

THE ROLLING STONES

Brown Sugar

"It may be the best dance song of time. When we're doing covers and just having fun, we'll go and play a bar after a show and be a bar band and we'd start with that – it gets everyone dancing."



THE SONG I WANT PLAYED AT MY FUNERAL

How Great Thou Art

"Oh man, it would have to be a hymn. It wouldn't be one of my songs. 'How Great Thou Art' is just one of those great hymns, one of those all time hymns that takes the focus off you and puts it where it should be. I really don't think it would be a rock song – 'Welcome To My Nightmare' I don't think would be appropriate!"

Alice Cooper's new album 'Paranormal' is out now



The wisdom of the NME archives

THIS WEEK
JOSH HOMME
Queens Of The Stone Age
July 29, 2000

"We're not the police. We're the party. We come to town, we bring the party. I'll turn the lights down, you do what you want."



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JEANS
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LIVES.
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These are provided to allow comparisons between vehicles and may not reflect your actual driving experience. Model shown is AYGO x-press 5 door 1.0 VVT-i Manual at £12,055. Price includes White x-press paint at no extra cost. Prices correct at time of going to print. *0% APR Representative only available on new retail orders of

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