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# NME

MUSIC  
FILM  
STYLE

# KILLING IT

Bill Skarsgård on playing Pennywise, the original nightmare clown

# A RICH LIFE IS ONE THAT ENRICHES OTHERS.



As a leader of adventures, Belinda Kirk believes exploration is an experience worth sharing. For her, true wealth is found when taking groups of people to places they've never been before.

San Miguel have been exploring the world since 1890. Throughout our journey we have discovered more trailblazers like Belinda who share our thirst for discovery, creativity and new experiences. This unique collection of inspirational people from the San Miguel Rich List, revealed 12th October.



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THE  
WORLD  
SINCE  
1890**

# NME

## Hello...

AS AN ANCIENT XENNIAL, I can remember watching the original TV adaptation of Stephen King's *It* in the early '90s. The three things that stick with me are firstly, John Boy from *The Waltons* was in it (Google it. Night John Boy), secondly, the ending was f\*\*\*ing awful ("this is battery aciiliid,"), and thirdly, Pennywise the clown was the single most terrifying bogeyman I'd ever seen or dreamed about in my then very short life.

Now, obviously Pennywise wasn't the first killer clown. John Wayne Gacy, the American serial killer who was convicted of the murders of at least 33 teenage boys and young men between 1972 and 1978 beat him to that. And let's be honest, Ronald McDonald has clearly got a whiff of the dark side about him too. But Pennywise was the one that brought coulrophobia into the mainstream. To heavily paraphrase John Lennon, I'm not afraid of beetles, I'm just afraid of clowns.

This week sees the rebirth of Pennywise as Bill Skarsgård (yep, recognise the surname) brings the children's "entertainer" back to life. In a world where the real bogeymen are unhinged nuke-lovers like Kim Jong-un, it's actually comforting that our fears are being projected back into our imaginations rather than just onto our TV screens.

**MIKE WILLIAMS**  
Editor-in-Chief  
@itsmikelike



Jorja Smith p31

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The actor on playing our creepiest cover star ever

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# AGENDA

WHAT EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT THIS WEEK

## Formation overload

18 of Beyoncé's best buds replicated her iconic 'Formation' look to celebrate her 36th birthday on September 4 – and as a pledge to support the Houston relief efforts. Here's what four of them have to say about Bey



### KELLY ROWLAND

**Who:** Bey's Destiny's Child bestie

**She says:** "[She is] an incredible woman. A woman I learned so much from."



### INGRID BURLEY

**Who:** Rapper and Bey's childhood friend

**She says:** "She's always been very patient, kind and helpful. She helped open up my mind."



### MICHELLE OBAMA

**Who:** Former First Lady of the USA

**She says:** "I would be Beyoncé."



### SERENA WILLIAMS

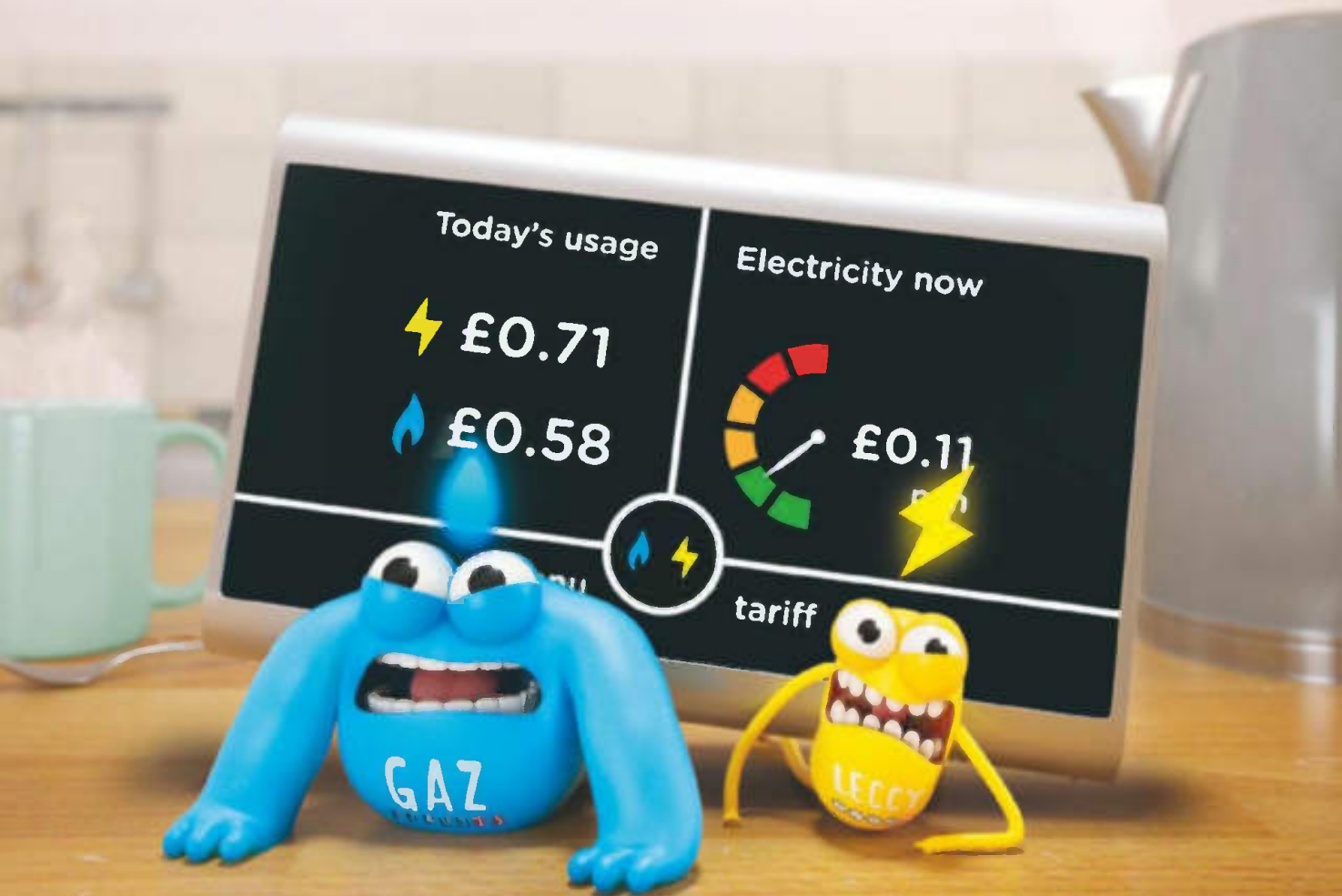
**Who:** Record-breaking tennis don

**She says:** "Beyoncé is a powerful individual. She motivates me."



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# A quick chat with The National

The cult New Yorkers release new album 'Sleep Well Beast' this week. Frontman Matt Berninger tells us all

**Are you competing with yourselves or your peers?**

"I'm still competing with The Strokes. I love our first record, but when it comes out next to [Strokes debut] 'Is This It', you're like, 'Ouch'. I saw them live and everything about that band was f\*\*\*ing perfect. We're not competing with anyone though. We believe in the collective thing that makes everybody better. With a f\*\*\*ing Nazi sympathiser for a President, we're all on the same team. Those Nazis are terrified, twisted boys – Donald Trump too is a twisted, mangled child."

**Is the mood in the USA as poisonous as the media would have us believe?**

"The conservative base has been working on this for 20 or 30 years. The corporate right has been using racism, sexism, hatred for a long time. Trump is just the monster they made. I have blind faith that kindness, bravery and love will prevail."

**The last time we saw you was just before Foo Fighters at Glastonbury. How was it filling that slot?**

"So much fun! I don't normally have a ton of fun of stage because I'm usually full of so much self-loathing and fear, but now I'm untangling that. I smoke a bit of weed, drink a little wine, and now I'm able to get on these stages and have a good time."

**Glastonbury's Emily Eavis said you deserve to headline. What was it like when you went on?**

"We came armed to win. When you're an artist you're saying, 'I'm a magician, I don't have a job, I make songs'. You have to prove it."

**How would you say your new album moves on from 2013's 'Trouble Will Find Me'?**

"We're as far out on the branch as we've ever been. We're just trying different shit. There's a lot of bleeps and bloops but it's also the most electric-guitar heavy record we've made. We weren't afraid of guitar solos."

**Bleeps and bloops? So it's your equivalent of Radiohead's 'Kid A'?**

"'Kid A' is a record that I listen to obsessively, I think we all do. But when people compare this to 'Kid A' it's like 'holy sh\*t, thank you', but it doesn't represent a direction that we're going in. If people say this as good a record as 'Kid A', I will drop the mic and walk away."



**SUPER MARIO**

Retired from his job as a plumber, according to Nintendo. Put your feet up, fella.



**GUY GARVEY**

The Elbow mainman danced with a male streaker who invaded a Bristol show last weekend.



**ZAYN MALIK**

Clean-shaved his head and fans said he looked like Dr Evil. (He didn't).



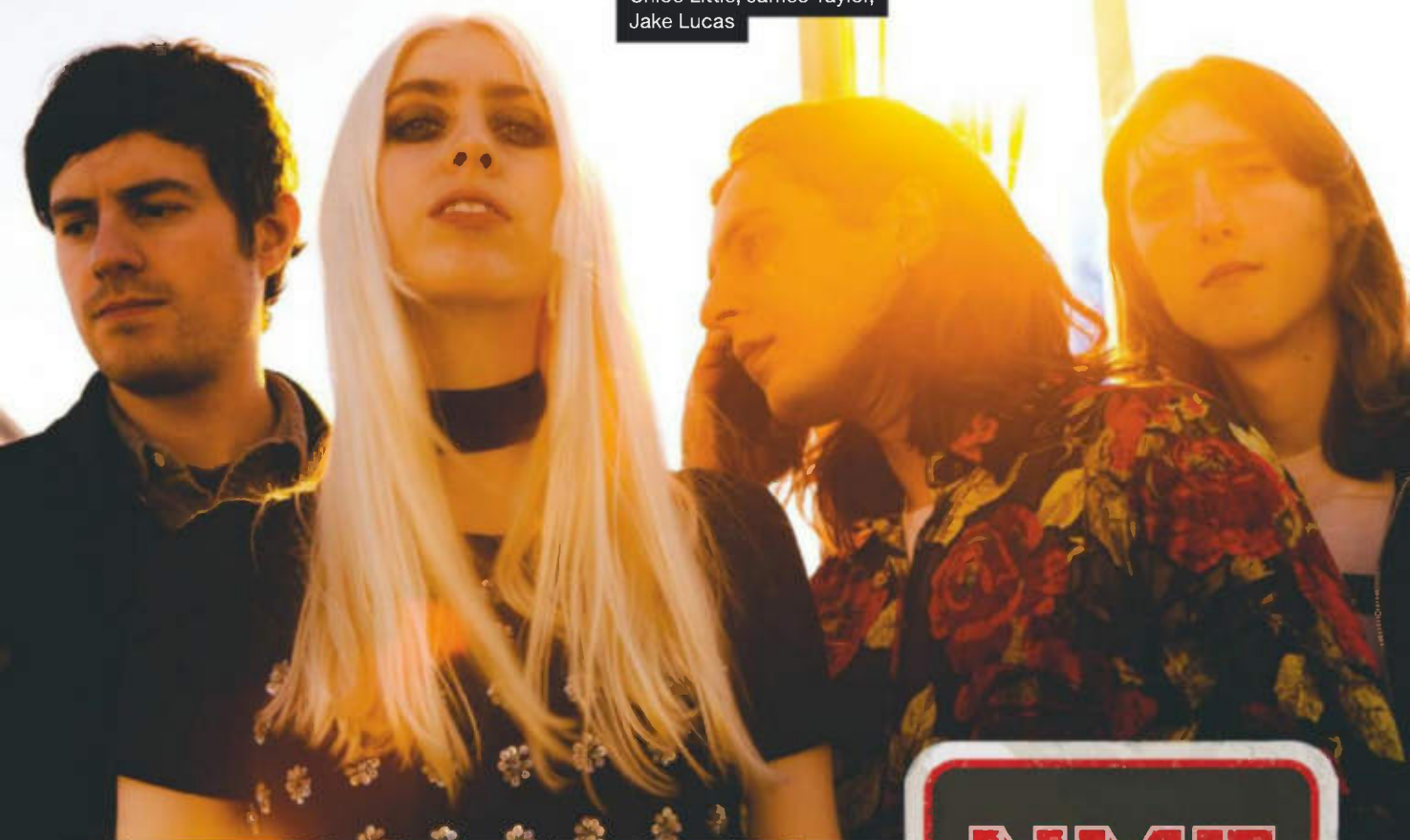
**LADY GAGA**

Cancelled a gig after she performed in the rain and got sick. Get well soon, Mrs Gaga!



The National (l-r): Bryce Dessner, Scott Devendorf, Matt Berninger, Aaron Dessner, Bryan Devendorf

INHEAVEN (l-r): Joe Lazarus, Chloe Little, James Taylor, Jake Lucas



## See INHEAVEN in our basement!

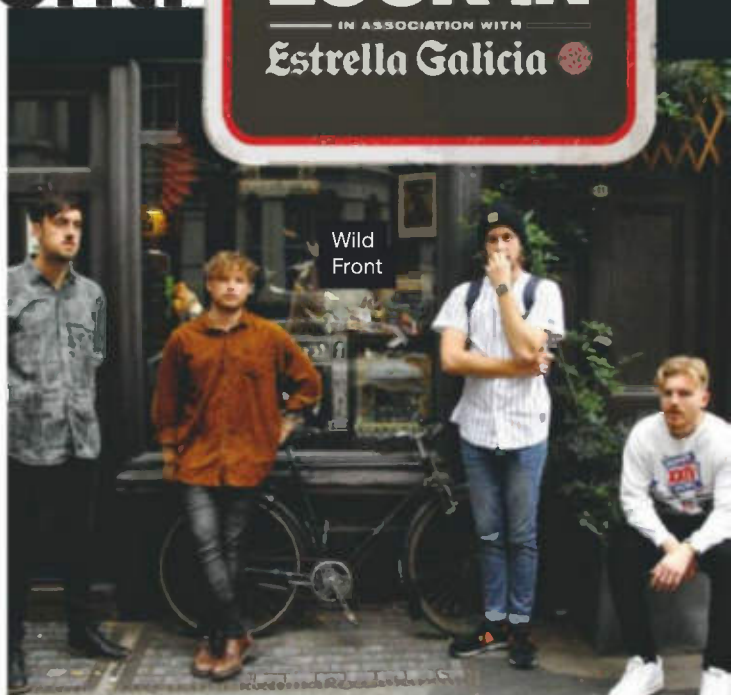
The London rockers and Wild Front play the latest NME LOCK IN with Estrella Galicia

YOU WOULDN'T WANT NME as your neighbours, because when we throw a party we like it *loud*. The latest NME LOCK IN with Estrella Galicia, which takes place on September 28 at NME's Southwark HQ, will be a perfect example of this, as south London's most incendiary band INHEAVEN descend into our basement to play a special three gig for 100 fans. In the wake of the release of their self-titled debut album, this special night will see the mighty indie-rock wrecking crew tearing through tracks such as 'Bitter Town' and 'World On Fire'. We've already started reinforcing the walls with whatever they kept

Hannibal Lecter in. Also bringing the noise are '80s-influenced Hampshire funk-pop rockers Wild Front, and there will, of course, be lashings of Estrella Galicia behind the bar. See you there!

### Get tickets!

The 50 pairs of tickets will be given out by ballot. To be in with a chance, head over to [NME.com/win](http://NME.com/win) and bag yourself a couple – before the most explosive gig of the month slips from your grasp like a grease-smothered hand grenade.







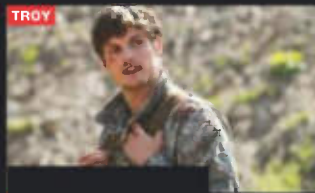
# Dead good

Is spin-off *Fear The Walking Dead* – back on Monday – better than the original? The cast think so (but they would)...



## IT OFFERS A NEW PERSPECTIVE

**Danay Garcia (Luciana):** "For [lead character] Madison it's all about her children. *The Walking Dead* has Rick and his son, but Madison is a mother. These two people come from her body – it's really an extension of herself. Seeing a woman deal with that in that world is a different perspective. She will do anything for them."



## IT'S MORE RELATABLE

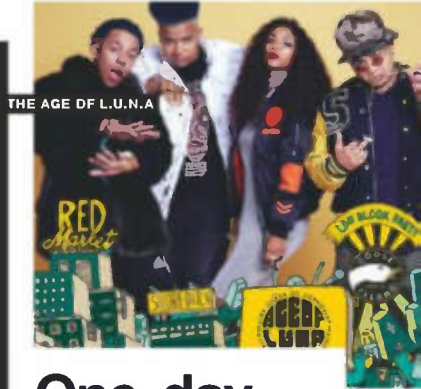
**Daniel Sharman (Troy):** "We're dealing with a timescale very soon after the collapse of civilisation. People still have memories of what they've lost, so we get to tell stories that are very human. Race, religion, any of these things: they're still a part of the conversation, and that allows the world to have more humanity."



## IT'S REALLY, REALLY GROSS

**Daniel Sharman:** "There's a scene where my eye is being gouged by a spoon. They put this noise on it, metal against bone and the back of the socket lifting the eye... Even talking about it makes me feel ill."

*Fear The Walking Dead* returns on Monday, September 11 at 9pm, on AMC on BT TV



## One-day wonder

Goose Island's one-day London festival, LDN Block Party, is back for a second year at RED Market on September 23. Head on down for these three brilliant things

**1 BIG TUNES**  
For just a tenner, you get a cracking one-day line-up including revenant indie-funk crew Superfood, rising hip-hop lot The Age Of L.U.N.A, indie duo Honeyblood and post-punk headliners White Lies – plus DJ sets from Flashback Records.

**2 BANGING BEERS**  
Maybe you're a connoisseur of the different aromatic variants you can produce from fermented starch; maybe you just like a beer now and then. Either way, you'll be bowled over by the selection on offer from Goose Island – including Goose IPA, Sofie, Bourbon County Stout and several rarer beers too.

**3 SUPER FOOD**  
The offerings include ribs from Smokey Tails, Thai delights from Greedy Khao and a "filthy" vegan option from Biff's Jack Shack – giving you the opportunity to watch Superfood while eating superfoods and singing along to their song 'Superfood'. Bucket list material right there.

Goose Island's LDN Block Party takes place on September 23 at east London's RED Market. Tickets available at [eventbrite.co.uk](http://eventbrite.co.uk) #LDNBlockParty

WORDS: LARRY BARTLETT



**\$800**

Price of a new Lego Millennium Falcon – the most expensive kit ever



**4000**

Target for a petition to erect a statue of Prince in Minnesota

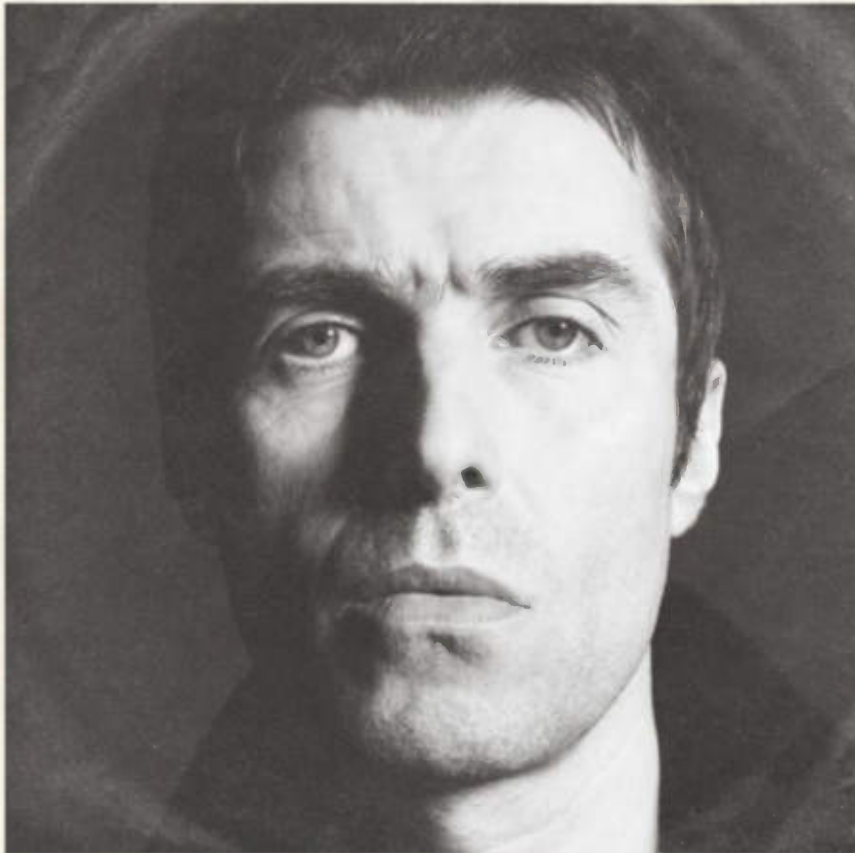


**10**

After 10 years, the free Apple Music Festival has been cancelled :(

## Last W33K IN NUMBERS

# LIAM GALLAGHER



## AS YOU WERE

DECEMBER 2017

SUNDAY 03 - **LEEDS FIRST DIRECT ARENA**  
MONDAY 04 - **GLASGOW THE SSE HYDRO**  
WEDNESDAY 06 - **PLYMOUTH PAVILIONS**  
THURSDAY 07 - **LONDON ALEXANDRA PALACE**  
SUNDAY 10 - **NOTTINGHAM MOTORPOINT ARENA**  
TUESDAY 12 - **BIRMINGHAM ARENA**  
WEDNESDAY 13 - **CARDIFF MOTORPOINT ARENA**  
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# ON THE RECORD

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THIS WEEK

## So long, festival season – you were magnificent

AND SO WE BID FAREWELL to yet another summer festival season. No longer is it appropriate to eat an entire box of Quorn mini eggs washed down with a can of lukewarm lager for breakfast. No longer will you have to pack clothes that can withstand four different seasons over one weekend. No longer will you have to sleep in a tiny house made of nylon. And we're totally gutted. Festival season is an excuse to become as close to feral as it's possible to be without Ben Fogle making a documentary about you. During festival season you are free to become the shower-dodging free spirit you always knew you were. Behaviour which would usually get you disowned by your mates – such as wearing glitter, singing Queen songs on an acoustic guitar at 3am, and actively enjoying electro-swing – are positively encouraged.

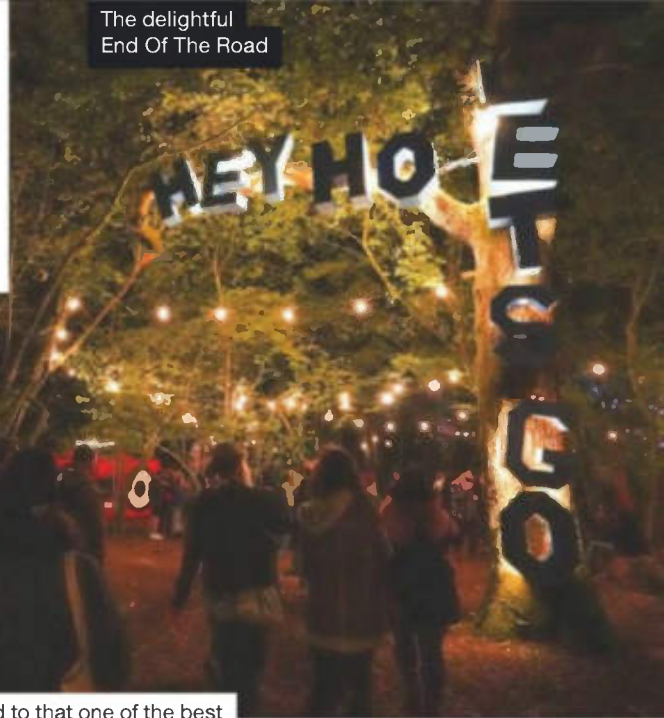
Bestival – which takes place

this weekend – is the last big blowout event of the year, and it'll then be another eight months at least until we're allowed to run wild in the fields, carparks and stately home back gardens of the UK again. I'm already out of the game though, bowing out last weekend at the ever delightful End Of The Road in Dorset, capping off a great summer with a spiritual headline set from Father John Misty, the eating of many, many pies, dancing to indie disco classics on a light-up //Saturday Night Fever// dancefloor next to a giant wooden boat, a 1am session playing 1970s soft rock in a wooden recording studio the size of a phonebox, some karaoke in a bathtub and a couple of pints of wine. Way too much fun, in other words.

Add to that one of the best Glastonburys in years, some fabulous frolicking at Field Day, the day I managed to see Queens of the Stone Age at both Reading and Leeds Festivals in the same day and Tom Petty and Stevie Nicks letting me indulge my drivetime Americana fantasies at British

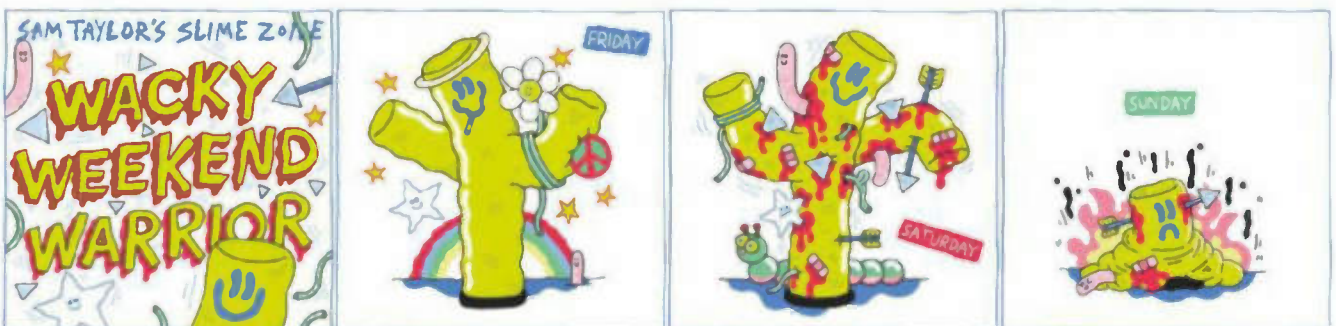
**“It’s an excuse to become as feral as possible”**

The delightful End Of The Road



Summer Time in Hyde Park and you can see why I'm about enter autumn in a state of bliss – but also extreme knackeredness. It is then with tired hands and a heavy heart that I pack away my wet wipes for yet another year – but you better believe that I'm already working out what festivals I'll be rampaging through in 2018. Now here's hoping I don't forget where I've hidden the glitter...

@leoniemaycooper



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# THINGS WE LIKE

## THIS WEEK'S OBJECTS OF DESIRE



**Uber pool**  
Find out all about the woman that is *Deadpool 2099* in this graphic novel.  
£11.99 *in-store at hmv*



**Booty call**  
Prepare for autumn with a pair of sturdy all-weather boots.  
£120 *kurtgeiger.co.uk*



**On the spot**  
This new line's Spot Control Gel is packed with tea tree and manuka to zap your zits.  
12.99 *31st-state.com*



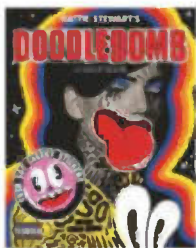
**Cave man**  
*Nick Cave: Mercy On Me* sees the life of the gloomy great rendered in graphic novel form.  
£14.99 *amazon.co.uk*



**Ice ice baby**  
This goat milk ice cream is the yummiest thing NME's eaten all summer.  
£4.99 *greedygoat.co.uk*



**Graphic scenes**  
Catch up with your fave *Guardians Of The Galaxy* in this Marvel comic.  
£11.99 *in-store at hmv*



**Stick you**  
Hattie Stewart's *Doodlebomb* is full of brilliant stickers to slap everywhere.  
£15.99 *laurenceking.com*



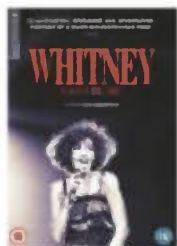
**I'm blue**  
The *Blue Velvet* soundtrack on split colour vinyl? Yes please.  
£22 *firesoundtracks.bandcamp.com*



**Ace ale**  
Brooklyn Brewery's Sorachi Ace is a tasty – and rather strong – saison.  
£3.19 *drinksupermarket.com*



**Game on**  
Action shooter sequel *Destiny 2* will have you gaming across the universe.  
£49.99 *destinythegame.com*



**Film for thought**  
Nick Broomfield's illuminating *Whitney: Can I Be Me* doc is out on DVD now.  
£9.99 *amazon.co.uk*



**Training day**  
These white and gold Nike Cortez offer up a subtle touch of bling.  
£65 *size.co.uk*



**Return of the Mac**  
Orlando from The Maccabees' 'The Gritterman' is an album and a book he illustrated!  
£17.99 *orlandoweeks.co.uk*



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# WHAT CLOUDY CIDER'S

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# What's ON your Headphones?

THIS WEEK

## Wareham



"It's individual and snazzy"

**< ROSS PRIOR**  
18, sales manager

Listening to:  
**SIA**  
*Unstoppable*  
"The lyrics are so meaningful. I feel like she's talking to me."

**Wearing:** River Island jumper, jeans and boots.  
**Best thing about Wareham:** "Wareham Pride. It's individual and snazzy."

**AARON SIMKINS >**  
24, mechanical engineer

Listening to:  
**BON JOVI**  
*Wanted Dead Or Alive*  
"It soundtracks a motorbike chase in a *Scooby-Doo* movie. Amazing!"

**Wearing:** Primark jumper, Burton jeans.  
**Best thing about Wareham:** "It's got the most amazing steak house in the world - Steakasaurus."



**< SAMANTHA BUMFORD**  
25, commercial manager

Listening to:  
**FOO FIGHTERS**  
*Wheels*  
"The beat is just brilliant. What a great live band."

**Wearing:** Primark jacket, Dorothy Perkins top, Next jeans.  
**Best thing about Wareham:** "Wareham Carnival, of course."



**HOLLY DRINKWATER >**  
24, waitress

Listening to:  
**MURA MASA**  
*What If I Go?*  
"It's where dubstep got taken next."

**Wearing:** Zara jacket and top.  
**Best thing about Wareham:** "Corfe Castle is really close. There's so much to explore."



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# MEET THE STAR OF YOUR NEXT NIGHTMARE

The Skarsgård family are one of today's great acting dynasties. But in taking *It's* demonic clown Pennywise as his first major role, **Bill Skarsgård** may have marked himself out as the black sheep of the family. **Olly Richards** meets the man behind the menace

**N**ightmarish isn't one of the first words that comes to mind looking at Bill Skarsgård. Sleepy-eyed and with the gliding facial plains that seem to be the birthright of anyone born in Sweden, the 27-year-old is by most definitions aesthetically pleasing. Soon, though, he will cause you to look behind the bedroom door before you go to sleep; he'll make you nervy about getting up for a wee in the middle of the night; one day, he'll probably be giving your children very bad dreams.

While most young actors hope to get their breakout role as someone cool and fanciable, Skarsgård is getting his as the supernatural, murderous clown Pennywise in *It*. An adaptation of Stephen King's 1986 horror novel, *It* centres on an all-American town where children keep

going missing. The adults barely seem to notice but a group of pre-teens, one of whom is searching for his missing brother, believe the kids are being stolen by Pennywise and dragged down to his lair in the sewers. Pennywise appears in many different forms, but most of the time he takes the shape of a yellow-eyed clown with a blood-red smile snaking up his chalky face.

Skarsgård has some very big shoes to fill taking on this role, and not just because they're clown shoes. When Tim Curry played Pennywise in a 1990 television two-parter of *It* he single-handedly changed the perception of clowns from children's entertainers to almost-definitely-murderers. Looking like the unholy offspring of Ronald McDonald and Nosferatu, he transcended the (not terribly good) series and became a pop culture icon,

traumatising even to those who'd never seen the adaptation.

The 2017 *It* is unquestionably better than the 1990 version, with plotting that slashes some of King's madder detours and a *Stranger Things*-esque gang of smart, swearsy kids. We'll have to wait a couple of decades or so to see if Skarsgård's Pennywise has the lasting impact of Curry's, but it certainly announces him as one of the more interesting new actors in Hollywood. The son of Swedish actor Stellan Skarsgård (*Thor*, *Pirates Of The Caribbean*) and brother of Alexander Skarsgård (*True Blood*, *The Legend Of Tarzan*), his ascent to stardom is all but a foregone conclusion. You won't recognise him in *It*, but you won't be able to forget him. We spoke with him about the prospect of ruining future childhoods, thankfully while he was out of character. ●●●

**Y**ou're young, handsome and seem a pretty cheerful person. What made you think, "Killer clown who eats

children' is the right fit for me"?

"I was excited just to even audition for [Pennywise]. I'm in my mid-twenties, so the roles I'm usually going up for are characters that might be fun, but they're all pretty close to me. They tend to look like you and talk like you and are the same age as you. It's very rare, especially for younger actors, to even get the opportunity to audition for this kind of transformative character. The voice, the movement, everything was just this creation."



## "IF I SUCCEED AT WHAT I'VE TRIED TO DO IN *IT*, I'LL HAVE TRAUMATISED AN ENTIRE GENERATION"

**You were born the same year the 1990 TV mini-series was released. Did you even know it? Was it scary to you?**

"Oh, I'd say I'm certainly of the generation that was traumatised by Tim Curry's performance. One of my best friends was *completely* traumatised by Tim Curry. He was four years old and his older sisters were like, 'Hey, let's watch this movie,' and she forced him to watch *It* when he was way, way too young to see it. He was terrified of clowns and still is to this day. You could make him have a panic attack when he was 15 just by talking to him about clowns. I've never had a phobia like that for anything, but he was my best friend so I saw the impact that the original had on an entire generation."

**You're obviously unrecognisable in your full Pennywise get-up. What did you think the first time you saw yourself as this nightmare?**

"I had some idea of what I'd look like. There were these temp pictures that they'd animated using my face and [had added to], but it's very different once you see it on you. Finally getting the make-up on for the first time took maybe five or six hours. Every step of the way I was just staring at myself in the mirror, seeing this character come alive. You get all the prosthetics on, then you get all the white on. There are a lot of stages along the way that look nothing like the character and are kind of bizarre. Then the smile comes on and the nose and he starts to come to life. It was a very special thing to go through. I stared at myself for a long time in the mirror, just trying to work through facial expressions."

**You're the only adult in the main cast. What was it like working entirely with children?**

"I didn't have any scenes with anyone that wasn't a kid. It was strange because we created this sort of separation. The character was very demanding of my concentration and focus. It was certainly the loneliest film shoot I've ever done. I was so isolated. I had the little Pennywise tent with my Pennywise squad: the prosthetics guys, the costume supervisor, the contact lens tech. I was in this very uncomfortable make-up and suit. So I very much kept to myself. My co-workers were all kids and they got really tight and became best friends on the shoot... while I felt really isolated and lonely."

**How did the kids react to seeing you for the first time?**

"They shot for a month, all the school scenes and the kids hanging out, so they became really close. They'd never seen me. The first time they saw me in full make-up was the first time I had a scene with them. So there was this huge build-up of anticipation for them. That was deliberate. They'd met me once at the read-through, so they didn't really know me either. We were trying to create some sort of tension that would translate into the movie. The kids are older and they're very smart, so... I don't think we fooled them by creating this tension, but it was certainly there and they were very excited. On day 15 of doing scary scenes together the tension had maybe kind of dissipated."

**What was the first movie to really terrify you?**

"It's not horror, but I think it was *Jurassic Park*. I was five or six. My brother Gustaf is 10 years older than me and the coolest thing in the entire world was to be allowed to sit in his room and hang out with him. One time he was watching *Jurassic Park* and said I could come watch it with him. I sat there knowing I wasn't supposed to be watching this violent, scary

## No laughing matter

The scariest clowns in pop culture



### POGO THE CLOWN

Real-life serial killer John Wayne Gacy was known as 'The Killer Clown' because he acted as a clown at kids' parties, and also killed people.



### PUDDLES

A 6ft 8in bald man named Mike Geier who covers pop songs, most notably Lorde's 'Royals', while dressed as a sad pierrot clown. Keep 'im.



### SHAWN CRAHAN FROM SLIPKNOT

Slipknot's scary masks schtick might be familiar now, but you'd still soil yourself if you saw this face on a dark night.



### TWISTY FROM AMERICAN HORROR STORY: FREAK SHOW

Not the show's best season, but the child-stealer and his butchered face are too memorable.



### ZOMBIE CLOWN FROM ZOMBIELAND

The underrated comedy contains many huge laughs and, with this undead bozo, one massive scare.

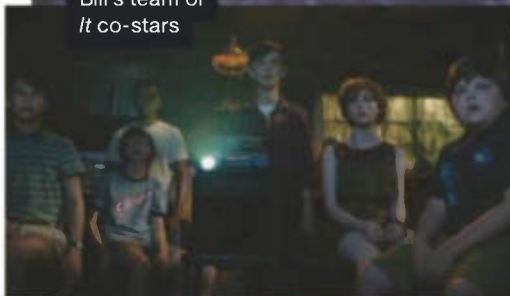
movie, but I am and it's amazing. My dad came in and he got really upset. He really let Gustaf have it. I remember I was furious. 'How dare you be angry at someone for doing something so generous as to let me watch this incredible film! I am having the time of my life!'... I think I understood the difference between real and imaginary, but I had very vivid nightmares about dinosaurs looking in through my bedroom window."

**Did growing up with an actor father and brother and being around movie sets mean that movies held less magic for you? You knew it was all smoke and mirrors?**

"A little. I think I always knew what was real and what wasn't. My dad would always enforce that in us. He'd always tell us that ghosts aren't real and monsters are fake – and actually, to a certain extent, religion. Then having a dad who for a living would make [films], there was always this clear difference between reality and stories. My little brother Valter is five years younger than me. When he was a little kid my dad's international career was really kicking off. I was eight when he did this movie called *Deep Blue Sea*, which had mechanical sharks in it, which as a kid I thought was *amazing*. Valter was three, so he grew up on film sets and saw all the fake robots and animation. One day he was sitting with his cousin watching a children's show – maybe *Pippi Longstocking*, some '70s low-budget children's show – and there were cows in the background of the shot. He turned to his cousin and said, 'You know that all those cows are robots, right? They're not real.' For him, the reality of filmmaking was that absolutely nothing onscreen was real."



Bill's team of *It* co-stars



**How do you feel about the fact that for many children you are going to be a source of trauma? You are going to be causing nightmares.**

"It's so weird. When I was working on this I was thinking, 'If I really succeed at what I'm trying to do here, I might traumatise a completely new generation'. It's a very bizarre thing to think about. This movie is not supposed to be seen by kids, of course."

**Neither was the Tim Curry one and how many of us managed to see it anyway?**

"Yeah. There's an age limit that I think is appropriate for the movie. Obviously you need to be old enough to be able to distinguish between what's real and what's not. I think the real world is much more terrifying than any Pennywise or other monster could be."

**You grew up in Sweden. Were clowns considered scary there too? Is it just an American/British thing or are clowns a universally horrifying entity?**

"The clown thing is strange... I found this documentary. It stressed that up until the novel of *It* there wasn't a collective fear of clowns... Then this book was released and it really changed how everybody viewed clowns. It's amazing. It's a testament to Stephen King. If you look at the depiction of scary clowns in films, you don't really see any prior to *It*. Then in the late '90s they started popping up all over the place. I really do think Stephen King was the first one to create the idea of clowns as scary and he changed things forever. Certainly this movie's not going to help these

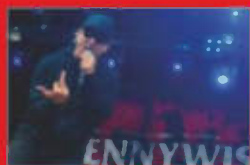
poor professional clowns who are just trying to entertain kids."

**It came first**

Four ways *It* influenced the world



**STRANGER THINGS**  
The Duffer brothers, who created *Stranger Things*, lobbied to direct *It*. Their show is full of nods to the book; they even used its font for the show's logo.



**PENNYWISE**  
The Californian punk band took their name from *It*'s monster, but it's never brought them quite the same level of international recognition.



**'KILLER' CLOWNS**  
Autumn 2016 saw a spate of clowns popping up all over the US and UK, one of them on a mobility scooter, terrifying the public.



**DOCTOR WHO**  
Three years after *It* was published, *Doctor Who* ran an episode set on a planet of killer clowns. Maybe coincidence, maybe not.

**Maybe they should just stop trying to entertain and embrace their frightening nature?**

"They should! Maybe they should just start doing seasonal work for Halloween. Reinvent the industry."

A photograph of Mac Demarco leaning against the back of a white Volvo station wagon. He is wearing a white t-shirt with a 'FANTASY VI' graphic, grey pants, red socks, and blue sneakers. The car has a 'I AM PROUD TO BE ITALIAN' sticker on the rear window, a Volvo logo, and 'EOLA VOLVO' text on the rear bumper. A quote is overlaid on the left side of the image.

“Sometimes  
you poop  
your pants.  
But it’s not,  
like, a lot.”

**MAC DEMARCO'S EIGHT  
COMMANDMENTS**

**Singer-songwriter Mac DeMarco's sweet jangle-pop and affable persona have made him cult leader for a new generation of slackers. He's 27 now, and he's learned a lot. Jordan Bassett bones up on his philosophy**

## 1 MEET NEW PEOPLE

"I don't really know what I was thinking [when I gave out my address and invited fans for coffee on 'My House By The Water']. My friends were like, 'What are you doing? They're going to rob you, they're going to hurt you.' But none of that s\*\*t happened, you know? I met a lot of different kinds of people. Some were old and really shy. Some overstayed their welcome quite a bit, but that's OK. The worst thing was, some young kids were trying to drink Smirnoff Ice. I was like, "Yo guys, this is not a bar – the invitation was for coffee!"

## 2 BE BEST PALS WITH YOUR PARTNER

"The secret to a long-lasting relationship? Just liking being around that person and wanting to spend time with them. Kiera [McNally] and I have had our ups and downs, but I just like her and have done since I was a kid. We met when we were 13, so when we finally got together seven years ago, it was so exciting to have something monumental in my life. Touring is impossible for a relationship, but if you like somebody, it's going to work out. Me and Kiera have something special. Hopefully it keeps working out. I have hope."

## 3 DON'T LET YOUR PAST DEFINE YOU

"The reviews for [my latest album] 'This Old Dog' were like, 'Goofy guy tries to make a serious record. Oh, he's trying to make a serious record but the guy put a drumstick up his ass while playing a U2 cover eight years ago.' I mean, I did – it was quite the performance – but they've been saying that for the past two records. I couldn't give a rat's ass about how I'm portrayed; I just want people to respect what I'm doing with the music and enjoy it. Like, did they think it was a good show? Those are the things I worry about."

## 4 FIND YOUR STYLE

"I saw this meme on Instagram – someone wearing cuffed jeans and Vans and a baseball cap with the caption, 'Listens to Mac DeMarco once'. It's like, I didn't invent wearing any of this s\*\*t, but it's become this thing. I'm not trying to be fashionable but it's cute that kids [emulate me]. Maybe it's not the items I'm wearing, but the repetition. I've been wearing the same style of shoes for 10 years. If you dress like a cartoon character for long enough, people are gonna start treating you like Bart Simpson."

## 5 SELF-ACCEPTANCE WILL COME

"My dad and I aren't really close; I haven't heard from him in months. 'My Old Man' isn't supposed to be like, 'F\*\*k you, Dad!' It's just me trying to figure out what that relationship is supposed to mean. If he'd been around, I probably wouldn't be the person I am today. Not knowing him never really bothered me, but maybe it pushed me to find other people to look up to for that role model. I tried to emulate other people I knew. Finally, nowadays, I don't really have to do that. I just feel like I'm doing me, not trying to fit in somewhere."

## 6 LIVE AT YOUR OWN PACE

"I'm one of those project-obsessed people. When I've started something, I'll stay up until five or six in the morning. We've been busting our asses on tour for, like, five years, and the shows are still crazy – I try to do the crazy things I used to – but I'm not a limber young man now. I can't end a show and be like, 'Hey, can we stay at somebody's house tonight?' The shows are too big – you can't put the invitation out to 5,000 people where everyone's like, 'Yeah man, I've got a bong and a pint of beer!' Look at photos of me nowadays – I'm falling apart!"

## 7 INSTAGRAM ISN'T LIFE

"Social media is ridiculous. It's funny that that's the window into someone's world. When I was a kid, the internet was a strange place. It wasn't for the masses; it was a meeting place for weird people that didn't fit in, like mall goths and furies. It was a beautiful thing. You could let your freak flag fly online. Now it's super-accessible and sneakily marketed. Everything's an advertisement for, like, protein powder. Your social media presence is your personal brand so when I post double-chin photos, people think, 'He's just this goofy guy.'"

## 8 THERE'S NO SHAME IN HAVING AN ACCIDENT

"I don't react well to dairy or gluten, but I don't give a s\*\*t. I'm like, "Gimme the pizza!" Well – you reap what sow. I eat that stuff all the time and then I'm on the can for, like, three hours. Drinking copious amounts of alcohol for the better part of a tour, that's not gonna help at the back. But it's nothing to be ashamed of. Sometimes you poop your pants. But it's not, like, a lot. It's just a very unhealthy little shart, you know what I mean?" **NME**

**Mac DeMarco tours the UK in November. See [NME.com/tickets](http://NME.com/tickets)**

## Mac's music

A quick guide to his releases so far



**ROCK AND ROLL NIGHT CLUB 2012**  
Mac croons through scuzzy rockabilly like Elvis in battered Vans.



**A MORE MELLOW AFFAIR 2012**  
A more mellow affair, this collection of acoustic ditties includes lovelorn highlight 'Still Together'.



**SALAD DAYS 2014**  
Mac comes of age with a record that turns down the quirkiness, as we said in our 9/10 review.



**ANOTHER ONE 2015**  
This mini-album, which tackled matters of the heart, included the details of his actual (now former) address.



**THIS OLD DOG 2017**  
We all age and turn into our parents (yuck!), as the Canadian discovers on this more polished record.



**HEADS UP:  
NEW STYLES  
NOW PLAYING**

# The festival guru

Go wild with your festival style. VO5 has partnered with The Mix and lifestyle blogger **Joel Mcloughlin** to give you all the tips and advice you need to make the most of festival season and show resilience when things may not go as planned.

**FOLLOW  
@GALLUCKS  
ON INSTAGRAM**

VO5 Texturising Gum 75ml  
RRP £4.39\*

## What are your festival must-haves you pack every time?

I like to cover all bases – I always pack a pair of sunglasses, a bandana, a lightweight raincoat, lip balm, VO5 Instant Volume Powder and VO5 Texturising Gum. You never know how the weather will be so that's why I love packing lots of VO5 products to keep my hair in great shape.

## Which festivals are on your list for next year?

It's not until 2019 but Glastonbury is definitely on my list – a few of my friends have been and said that it is an incredible experience. I'd also like to do Coachella and Burning Man – I think festivals in other countries are a lot more appealing to me just because of the weather!

## Why did you decide to dress up as the devil at Secret Garden Party?!

I don't usually dress up at festivals, but recently festival attire has kicked into high gear and become all about glitter and dressing up. So this year I decided to go all out and join in. SGP usually has a fancy-dress theme but me and my friends couldn't quite figure out what to go as. The theme was 'VIP or celebrity' so in the end we went for angels and devils. I simply ordered some red face paint (enough to cover my entire body), some inexpensive devil horns and some contact lenses – oh, and a lot of red glitter!



**How do you research which festival you want to go to?**

I check the line-up of each festival, write down all of the artists/bands that I like and if there are enough that I want to see then I'll go for that one! You have to make the ticket price worth it but also sometimes it's good to go to festivals where you don't know much of the music meaning you might discover new artists. At the last ever Secret Garden Party this year I saw Jorja Smith – I'd never heard of her before and now I can't stop listening to her!

**Save this number on your phone**

**And the website, while you're at it.**

We all like to forget reality and go wild at a festival, but sometimes things don't go to plan and you end up in a right old pickle. Overdone it with drink and drugs? Had a bad experience? Need advice on how to cope with a problem?

**Visit The Mix for support:**

- Online: [themix.org.uk/get-support](http://themix.org.uk/get-support)
- Call: our free helpline on 0808 808 4994 (open daily, 11.00-23.00)

We're here to support you with anything, big or small. Always.



**What are your tips if you've overdone it at a festival?**

Take it easy, try and rest in your tent or find the first aid tent and explain your situation – your health is the most important thing and you need to look after yourself.

**Have you ever had, or known someone who's had, an emergency at a festival?**

A couple of my friends had phones stolen or lost at festivals before. All you can do is report it to security but the best thing to do is to take precautions beforehand – maybe take a budget phone with you or an old one so that if you do lose it, it's not a nightmare.

**What are your festival DON'Ts?**

Avoid going crazy on the first night as you'll be regretting it the rest of the days. Who wants to spend the whole festival sleeping in a tent?



**What would your advice be to first time festivalgoers – how can they have a great experience but also look after themselves and navigate any issues they may encounter?**

I think it's a case of being self-aware at all times. Make sure you're totally prepared before you go – the worst thing is to arrive at a festival and realise you've forgotten something! Make a list of what you need and when at the festival itself, pace yourself, enjoy the experience and, most importantly, have fun.



# FUNDRAISE ON JEANS FOR GENES DAY FRI 22 SEPT



Join Charlotte De Carle and organise a Jeans for Genes Day in your workplace to help raise vital funds to support children with life-altering genetic disorders.

By encouraging everyone around you to wear jeans and donate, you will be doing something amazing for these children.

**SIGN UP FOR YOUR  
FREE FUNDRAISING PACK**  
[JEANSFORGENES.ORG](http://JEANSFORGENES.ORG)

# RADAR

THIS WEEK'S ESSENTIAL NEW RELEASES

## Best NEW tracks And when to drop them

### BEST FOR GETTING YOU OUT OF BED

**PALOMA FAITH**

*Crybaby*

Pop powerhouse Paloma returns with a soulful, swinging number. Welcome back.

### BEST FOR ROWING YOUR BOAT

**C. MACLEOD**

*Kicks In*

From the wilds of the Isle of Lewis, this lush folksy tune comes on like a Scots Springsteen.

### BEST FOR POOLSIDE DANCING

**MAROON 5 FEAT. SZA**

*What Lovers Do*

Tapping up artist of the moment – the brilliant SZA – Maroon 5 impress with this summery shake-down.

### BEST FOR THROWBACK THURSDAYS

**BULLY**

*Running*

Like an outtake from the *Clueless* soundtrack, this is pure 1990s grunge-pop greatness.

### BEST FOR KICKING BACK

**COURTNEY BARNETT  
AND KURT VILE**

*Over Everything*

The slacker indie heroes join forces for an impressively chilled out, Aussie-American duet full of jangle and joy.

### BEST FOR MOPING ABOUT

**THE NATIONAL**

*Day I Die*

More trademark cheeriness from Brooklyn's most gloomy. "I don't need you / I don't need you," sighs Matt Berninger.

### BEST FOR THE DANCEFLOOR

**BUSTA RHYMES**

*Girlfriend*

Vybz Kartel and Tory Lanez help out the rap legend on this hyper hit of dancehall.

### BEST FOR FEELING BLISSFUL

**BONIFACE**

*I Will Not Return*

*As A Tourist*

Canadian newcomer Boniface melds synth elation and singer-songwriter soul in this tropical-edged belter.

### BEST FOR GETTING GLITTRY

**U2**

*The Blackout*

Bono and the boys stomp through this glammy tune from their

forthcoming new album, 'Songs Of Experience'.

### BEST FOR ASTRAL PROJECTIONS

**GODSPEED YOU!**

**BLACK EMPEROR**

*Undoing A*

*Luciferian Towers*

The longstanding experimental rockers offer up eight minutes of majestic noise perfect for floating out of your body on your lunch hour.

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# MUSIC



## JESSE AND SEBASTIEN

Death From Above

### What about this record makes it feel like DFA?

**Sebastien:** "We've realised that Death From Above is just us, plus a couple of pieces of gear. It's not this separate third entity that is mythologised or whatever. We didn't talk for five years but the band continued to exist and kept working in the background. When we started working on [previous record] 'The Physical World', we treated the band as this other thing that we had to respect. Now we don't – we don't respect it any more!"

### How has your sound progressed?

**Jesse:** "This record is interesting because I didn't have any preconceived ideas of what the songs would be like. We just wrote what we thought we'd enjoy. One of the things that's always been important to us is trying to avoid repeating ourselves, musically. I realise that's probably to the detriment of our careers."

**Sebastien:** "When Jesse plays me a demo, sometimes there's an obvious way to go with it. On this record, I did the complete opposite of that. The best bits are completely incongruous and weird."

### Why did you drop the '1979' from your name?

**Jesse:** "A couple of years ago we dropped it from our tour posters. No one noticed so we kept doing it."

**Sebastien:** "The final straw was when I was making the art for our single 'Freeze Me'. I wanted to write the name out in ice, so I went on Amazon and ordered an ice cube tray in the alphabet. It came and there were no numbers. That was that."

Andrew Trendell



DFA (l-r): Sebastien Grainger and Jesse F. Keeler

# Really loud rock 'n' roll music

A simple pleasure in complicated times

## DEATH FROM ABOVE

Outrage! Is Now



ROCK ROLL COLOSSAL

FOR A WHILE IT looked like Death From Above would be one of those rare bands who formed, made a cult classic debut album then tapped out. Like their thrilling live shows, the Toronto duo's career was short and explosive. In 2006, they quit, reasoning they'd met all their goals and

simply grown up (and apart). Afterwards, drummer/vocalist Sebastien Grainger recorded with The Mountains, while bassist Jesse F. Keeler formed dance project MSTRKRFT.

So, when they got back together in 2011, it was both surprising and exciting. Their comeback album 'The Physical World' was a glorious celebration of the tangible things in our increasingly digital life, delivered, via the medium of really

f\*\*king loud rock 'n' roll music. The balance shifts with 'Outrage! Is Now'. They've now made more albums post- than pre-breakup but, thankfully,

Death From Above (there's no more 1979) have made another ripper.

In the past, it's felt like Jesse and Sebastien were two objects smashing into each other. Now, they're a much tighter, leaner, more collaborative collision. That primal wildness is still there, the songs are just smarter, better constructed. That's best exhibited on a trio of colossal tracks – 'Nomad', 'Caught Up' and 'Freeze Me'. There may be the odd shruggable moment, but the fire still most definitely burns in DFA's bellies. **Greg Cochran**

## Best track

### 'NOMAD'

Where original DFA meets the thumping intensity of MSTRKRFT – a bulldozing album opener.



# Music for the apocalypse

Seven albums in, The National have become our premier doomsayers

**THE NATIONAL**

*Sleep Well Beast*



GLOOM EXPERIMENTAL

SINCE THE National released sixth album 'Trouble Will Find Me' in 2013, it's fair to say the world has found nothing but

trouble. Follow-up 'Sleep Well Beast' continues the theme, asking on the rollocking 'Day I Die', "*the day I die - where will we be?*". In a bunker, sheltering from a Trumpian

GRAHAM MCINDOE



nuclear war at this rate.

It's all very 2017. And it's an album on which Matt Berninger, Aaron and Bryce Dessner, and Bryan and Scott Devendorf stray outside the previously clearly defined lines of what The National sound is. It's more experimental lyrically. For example, on 'Walk It Back', a skittering

exploration of anxiety, we hear an excerpt of former deputy chief of staff to George W Bush, Karl Rove, quoting an aide.

And it's more experimental sonically, too. 'I'll Still Destroy

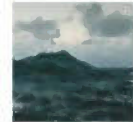
You' starts with synths Jamie xx would dig. 'Turtleneck', one for fans of Steve Jobs' sartorial decisions, is a revelation. A strong Pixies vibe and raucous licks that duel together happily see The National at their hardest, with Matt railing against "*another man in s\*\*ty suits*".

They've been added to the steadfast elements that make The National so good: clever turns of phrase, genius storytelling, Bryan Devendorf's marching-band drums, delightful arrangements and piano and brass that work well together. All these are put to expert effect here on the sublime 'Dark Side Of The Gym', which is a perfect blend

of old and new.

Not everything works, and 'Guilty Party' is the unfortunate victim of this band's habit of chucking a monotonous dud or two on every record. But hey, this is The National at a time when a nationalist heads the most powerful country in the world. They've adjusted accordingly. Play it on repeat in the bunker.

**Hannah Jane Parkinson**



**VOLCANO CHOIR**  
*Repave*  
Bon Iver's side-project

Volcano Choir serve up similarly literary lyrics, sweeping choruses and piano pieces.

**ALBUM OF THE WEEK**



The National (l-r): Scott Devendorf, Bryce Dessner, Matt Berninger, Bryan Devendorf, Aaron Dessner

L-r: Jeremy Renner and Elizabeth Olsen



# Winter is coming

**Taylor Sheridan's intelligent murder mystery delves into the wilds of Wyoming**

## WIND RIVER

15 Jeremy Renner, Elizabeth Olsen



WHODUNIT DEBUT

WARMTH IS TOUGH TO come by in *Wind River*. The bleak setting is an Indian reservation in the mountains of Wyoming, where spring brings only more snow. Its inhabitants are hardened against a country that's forgotten them. Local animal tracker Cory Lambert (Jeremy Renner) has withdrawn

after a personal tragedy. The violent death of a young woman puts a crack in this frozen community – a crack that just keeps spreading. Flown in to solve the crime is Jane (Elizabeth Olsen), a Las Vegas FBI agent so out of place it's a wonder she doesn't steam when she hits the snow.

The directing debut of Taylor Sheridan, writer of the excellent *Sicario* and *Hell or High Water*, *Wind River* is ostensibly a murder mystery, but it's not really told like one. As with his two previous films as screenwriter, Sheridan messes around with structure, sharing information sparingly. Details that most films would give us immediately, he gives us an hour in. For a long time we

know almost nothing of the rape victim found dead in the snow, even though Cory clearly knows a great deal about her. Sounds frustrating, but it isn't.

The meat of Sheridan's scripts is always in the parts between clues being solved. He wants to delve into ideas on the difference between doing the right thing and the necessary thing, and a nation that's evolving at different speeds for

different people. His dialogue is beautiful and precise; sometimes it sounds unnaturally practised, but it's always intelligent and finely honed.

For such a thinky kind of thriller, a little more thought might have gone into Jane who is comparatively short-changed as a character. Initially a determined rookie, she devolves into victim, her naïve decisions repeatedly requiring Cory to swoop in on his Ski-Doo and rescue her. Sheridan is a better writer than director, letting a few too many of his scenes stop dead to luxuriate in monologues, but he shows tons of potential. This is a debut to be proud of. **Olly Richards**

## FOR FANS OF



# Scarier things

Freaky reboot with very creepy moments

It

15 Bill Skarsgård,  
Finn Wolfhard



CLIMAX '80S SOUL-EATING

THE TWO-PART TV VERSION of *It* looms large in the horror canon, having birthed the evil clown trope, the haunted funhouse attractions at Halloween scare parks and the 'killer' clown craze that became a media circus last autumn. It also struck a clever balance between nostalgia, atmosphere and scares. Pennywise the clown, like all the best horror baddies, had infiltrated a cosy

corner of the world – the fictional Derry, Maine – and picked on seemingly its most vulnerable inhabitants: the 'Losers Club' of tweenage misfits. It was *Stand By Me* with blood-filled balloons.

Still set in Derry, this new film transposes the action from the '60s to the '80s, the go-to safe place of modern cinema. With children being abducted on the reg and Finn Wolfhard playing one of a central gang of bike-riding kids, it's hard not to draw parallels to *Stranger Things*. Except, of course, that in *Stranger Things* there's no demonic painting that comes to life, nor leprous zombie stalking a child. *It* is a creature that takes the form of a kid's worst fears, meaning the film has multiple nasties out to get the adolescent gang. But it's only in the most regular guise, as Pennywise, that the film is ever truly terrifying. Bill Skarsgård plays the clown with a manic stare, a toothy Cat In The Hat grin and frantic Tasmanian Devil moves. He's a killer that delights in evil and feasts on souls, and some of his scenes – particularly one

in which he reveals himself to the gang via a slide projector – are deliciously creepy.

Director Andrés Muschietti says the film is based on the original Stephen King text, not the '90s films, and his greatest win is in fleshing out the characters and stories of the adolescent protagonists; the real-life brutality they encounter, from parents and peers, is arguably worse than that inflicted by Pennywise. The biggest loss is too much of that creepy smalltown atmosphere, and – crucially – showing us the clown's big, inhuman teeth too soon. Rarely does a mere trailer terrify so many people as that for *It* did earlier this year. But like the kids, you suspect many viewers will have overcome their fears by the time they leave the cinema.

Dan Stubbs

## STRANGE & TRUE

A scene in the book has the gang of kids bonding by, er, having group sex. They left that bit out of the film.

# Back back back

Comedy duo David Mitchell and Robert Webb are reuniting for new series *Back*. It's funny, brilliant and rude. Here's their intro to their characters

That Mitchell and Webb look...



## BACK

Channel 4/All4 David Mitchell, Robert Webb

COMEDY CALAMITY MIDDLE-AGE

## ANDREW

Robert Webb

**Robert:** "Over the course of the series he worms his way into the affections of Stephen's family, making him paranoid that he's trying to take over. Eventually we get some clues about Andrew's past but it's kind of a guessing game. He's clever and knows how to manipulate people. I'm giving two performances: the innocent one and the 'maybe this is actually Satan' one. It's a fun part."

**David:** "Andrew is an absolutely fascinating cipher. Is he a genuinely well-meaning person, a plotting sociopath or just a self-interested twat? I think we all know someone like him."

## STEPHEN

David Mitchell

**David:** "He's a downtrodden local businessman whose father has just died and is hoping to take over the family pub. His parents used to have lots of foster children and at the funeral one of them turns up out of nowhere [Andrew, played by Robert Webb]. He ends up pulling all the strings while Stephen is the victim, a total innocent. He is a child in the face of a terrifying world."

**Robert:** "He really used to resent the foster children. He's very emotionally inept and some of the things he says are completely ridiculous. You get to love how he reacts to different situations."

## Mitchell and Webb's favourite Peep Show moments

### WHEN JEZ FORGETS THE CHRISTMAS TURKEY

**David:** "My wife absolutely hates this moment. It's the only episode she refuses to watch because she feels Mark is so cruel to Jeremy. He's just screaming at him on Christmas morning. But I am always happy to do that!"

### WHEN JEZ EATS A DOG

**Robert:** "It was actually turkey. I love it because it's so extreme. You also get there in these very small steps: he accidentally runs over the dog because he's stoned. He tries to bury him but he can't. They set fire to her and it doesn't work. Then he puts the dog in a bag and is suddenly confronted by the owner he's trying to sleep with. It's such clever and brilliant writing."

# Under THE RADAR

YOU HEARD IT HERE FIRST

## Jorja Smith

**Drake-approved R&B from the Midlands**

JORJA SMITH IS READY to go global. Having wowed as a featured artist on Drake's 'More Life' collection, and with an upcoming support slot for Bruno Mars in the States, Smith's ascension to stardom is inevitable. But before all that, the 20-year-old is bringing it back home with new single 'On My Mind', a distinctly British garage banger. Here's the lowdown on her next step.

**Tell us about your new single 'On My Mind'.**

"It's a bit of an old-school garage thing. There's bit of grime in there too, so it was nice to try something new. I wrote it when I was still in school, so it's got a really nostalgic edge to it."

**Amy Winehouse is a big influence for you, isn't she...**

"She was so honest, everything she sings about, you believe. I think that honesty is really important when writing, and it meant Amy was always able to capture your ears and heart [with] what she's singing about. Good music is timeless, and if you create with that honesty, it will last."

**Is that something you replicate in your music?**

"Definitely. I like to write about what I've seen and experiences I've been through. Music is an outlet, so I'm not going to get things out that aren't true. Sometimes I do exaggerate – but only a little bit..."

**You featured on Drake's 'More Life' playlist back in March – does that spotlight put pressure on you now?**

"It was so mad. People from across the globe were listening to me so that was important moment for that. But I've got a very clear idea of exactly what I'm doing and I haven't rushed anything. Honestly, I don't feel pressure right now."

**Thomas Smith**

## STRANGE & TRUE

Drake is such a big fan of the singer that he and Jorja were spotted buying sweets from the Co-op in Walsall.

## FOR FANS OF



SZA



SOLANGE

## Best track

### BLUE LIGHTS

A piano-led soul chinstroker, backed by a tone-perfect sample of Dizzee Rascal's 2007 single 'Sirens'.

## DETAILS

**From:** Walsall  
**Social:** @JorjaSmith  
**Buy:** 'On My Mind' is out now



# clean bandit

plus special guest  
STARLEY



## uk tour 2017

- 29.10 Glasgow Barrowlands
- 30.10 Cambridge Corn Exchange
- 31.10 Bournemouth O2 Academy
- 02.11 London Eventim Apollo
- 03.11 Birmingham O2 Academy
- 06.11 Newcastle O2 Academy
- 07.11 Manchester O2 Apollo

[cleanbandit.co.uk](http://cleanbandit.co.uk) [ticketmaster.co.uk](http://ticketmaster.co.uk) [gigsandtours.com](http://gigsandtours.com)

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# live

THIS WEEK'S BEST TICKETS AND GIGS



## Come as you were

**Liam Gallagher is back, baby – don't miss his huge 10-date UK tour**

TWENTY MONTHS AGO, Liam Gallagher denied reports he was planning to record a solo album, saying, "I'm not a c\*\*t". Then, just over a year ago, the former Oasis singer greeted the news of his debut solo album by tweeting, "It's official, I'm a c\*\*t". In a world of ultra-polished pop stars, Liam Gallagher is not a man who minces his words.

That's great news for his tour, because it means 10 whole nights of acid quips to accompany the banging new material from the forthcoming 'As You Were', due October 6. But as he's been demonstrating at recent shows – most recently at Reading & Leeds Festivals in August – that's not all he'll play. For the '90s crew, there'll be plenty of throwback Oasis material like 'D'You Know What I Mean?', 'Rock 'N' Roll Star' and, of course, 'Wonderwall'. Be there now.

ON SALE NOW

### LIAM GALLAGHER

Oasis singer, funny guy

#### OCTOBER

Mon 30 Ulster Hall, Belfast

#### DECEMBER

Sun 3 First Direct Arena, Leeds

Mon 4 SSE Hydro, Glasgow

Wed 6 Pavilions, Plymouth

Thu 7 Alexandra Palace, London

Sun 10 Motorpoint Arena, Nottingham

Tue 12 Arena, Birmingham

Wed 13 Motorpoint Arena, Cardiff

Fri 15 Centre, Brighton

Sat 16 Arena, Manchester

TICKETS: £35-£45



**ON SALE  
NOW**

## **NINA NESBITT**

23-year-old pop star  
from Edinburgh

### **NOVEMBER**

**Mon 20** Garage, London

**Tue 21** Sound Control,  
Manchester **Wed 22** Art  
School, Glasgow

**TELL ME MORE:** Prior to  
her 2014 debut 'Peroxide',  
Nesbitt supported Ed  
Sheeran and Example on  
tour. Her second album's  
due next year.

**TICKETS:** £11-£15



## **ARCADE FIRE**

Indie heroes from  
Montreal

### **APRIL 2018**

**Sun 8** Arena, Manchester

**Wed 11, Thu 12 & Fri 13**  
SSE Arena Wembley,  
London **Sun 15** Genting  
Arena, Birmingham **Mon**  
**16** SSE Hydro, Glasgow

**TELL ME MORE:** The  
six-piece are performing  
their glorious disco ball  
of an album 'Everything  
Now' in the round on this  
arena tour.

**TICKETS:** £62.70-£64.75

## JASON DERULO

The man who loves to sing his own name

### MARCH 2018

**Thu 15** Arena, Manchester

**Fri 16** First Direct Arena, Leeds **Sat 17** SSE Wembley, London

**Sun 18** Centre, Brighton

**Tue 20** SSE Hyrdo, Glasgow **Wed 21** SSE Arena, Belfast

**Sat 24** Genting Arena, Birmingham

**Sun 25** Motorpoint Arena, Cardiff

**TELL ME MORE:** The 27-year-old R&B star is prepping his 21-track fifth album '777'. That's a lot of 'Jason Derulo's'.

### TICKETS:

£32.95-£41.50



live

## SUNDARA KARMA

Reading indie lot

### SEPTEMBER

**Wed 27** Tramshed, Cardiff

**Thu 28** O2 Academy, Bristol

**Fri 29** The 1865, Southampton

**Sat 30** Rock City, Nottingham

### OCTOBER

**Sun 1** O2 ABC, Glasgow

**Tue 3** Academy, Manchester **Wed 4** The Empire, Coventry **Thu 5** O2 Academy Brixton, London **Fri 6** Guild of Students, Liverpool

**Sat 7** The Plug, Sheffield

**Mon 9** O2 Academy & Underground, Leeds **Tue 10** Northumbria University SU, Newcastle **Wed 11** The Plug, Sheffield **Thu 12** Academy, Manchester

**TELL ME MORE:** A huge victory lap to celebrate the success of January's Maccabees-touched debut, 'Youth Is Only Ever Fun In Retrospect'.

**TICKETS:** £16.50-£20.53





THATCHERS  
*Haze* × NME

CALEB KUNLE  
RELEASES  
NEW EP 'EDEN'

AFTER WINNING THE THATCHERS HAZE X NME EMERGING ARTISTS PROJECT, CALEB WON AN INCREDIBLE STUDIO PACKAGE THAT INCLUDED WORKING WITH MENTOR, MURKAGE DAVE, TO CREATE A FOUR-TRACK EP

LISTEN TO 'EDEN' ON SPOTIFY AND APPLE MUSIC

AFTER AN AMAZING PERFORMANCE IN THE NME BASEMENT, WE ARE THROWING CALEB A RECORD EP RELEASE PARTY AT THE SUNFLOWER LOUNGE IN BIRMINGHAM ON SEPTEMBER 13

WIN TICKETS  
AT [NME.COM/WIN](https://www.nme.com/win)

THATCHERS  
*Haze* × NME THE EMERGING ARTISTS PROJECT



CALEB KUNLE

live

# THE WEEK'S BEST GIGS

## ALT-J

Fri 8 Grand Pier, Weston-super-Mare  
Sat 9 Winter Gardens, Blackpool  
Mon 11 Hippodrome, Kingston upon Thames

## ALVAYS

Fri 8 KOKO, London  
Sat 9 Thekla, Bristol

## THE AMERICAS

Fri 8 The Mothers' Ruin, Bristol  
Sat 9 Nambucca, London

## ANGEL

Wed 13 The Limelight, Belfast

## BABY STRANGE

Tue 12 Beat Generator Live, Dundee  
Wed 13 The Tunnels, Aberdeen

## BANFI

Fri 8 The Cellar, Oxford  
Sun 10 Broadcast, Glasgow  
Mon 11 Gullivers, Manchester  
Tue 12 The Lexington, London  
Thu 14 The Joiners, Southampton

## CALEB KUNLE

Wed 13 Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham

## CASSIA

Thu 14 Strings Bar & Venue, Newport

## CHARLY BLISS

Tue 12 Clwb Ifor Bach, Cardiff  
Wed 13 The Old Blue Last, London

## THE DISTRICTS

Mon 11 The Haunt, Brighton  
Tue 12 The Garage, London

## DUTCH UNCLES

Sat 9 Art Theatre, New Mills

## GAPS

Thu 14 The Prince Albert, Brighton

## GIRLPOOL

Fri 8 Gorilla, Manchester  
Sat 9 Stereo, Glasgow

## GOOSE ISLAND LDN BLOCK PARTY

Sat 23 RED Market Shoreditch, London

## H. HAWKLINE

Fri 8 Actress and Bishop, Birmingham  
Sat 9 Clwb Ifor Bach, Cardiff  
Sun 10 Soup Kitchen, Manchester  
Mon 11 Moth Club, London  
Tue 12 The Joker, Brighton

## HUMAN LEAGUE

Fri 8 Racecourse, Brighton  
Sat 9 Racecourse, Wolverhampton

## JESSIE WARE

Fri 8 Islington Assembly Hall, London

## JONAS BLUE

Sat 9 Ministry of Sound, London

## LITTLE CUB

Sun 10 The Forum, Tunbridge Wells  
Thu 12 Purple Turtle, Reading  
Wed 13 The Horn, St Albans  
Thu 14 The Railway Inn, Winchester

## MIKE SKINNER / MURKAGE CARTEL

Fri 8 Camden Assembly, London

## NOVA TWINS / YASSASSIN / ANIMAL SONS

Wed 13 Ultralounge @ Selfridges, London

## OUR GIRL

Wed 13 The Lexington, London

## RYAN ADAMS

Fri 8 Ulster Hall, Belfast  
Thu 14 O2 Apollo, Manchester

## THE SHERLOCKS

Thu 14 University Student Union, Newcastle

## SIGRID

Wed 13 & Thu 14 Scala, London

## SKOTT

Wed 13 The Pickle Factory, London

## THE STRYPES

Sat 9 The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent

## THE VEILS

Fri 8 The Wardrobe, Leeds  
Sat 9 The Garage, Glasgow  
Thu 14 Arts Centre, Norwich

## WILD BEASTS

Fri 8 The Welly Club, Hull

## YONAKA

Thu 14 The Borderline, London

## ZULI / EL 3EZBA

Thu 14 Ultralounge @ Selfridges, London

PRESS ASSOCIATION, GETTY IMAGES, REX FEATURES, ANDY HUGHES

# SOUNDTRACK OF MY LIFE

## Romesh Ranganathan

Stand-up comedian and upstanding gent

### THE FIRST GIG I WENT TO

**SALT-N-PEPA**

*Crawley Leisure Centre*

"It was really good. I don't remember any other gigs happening at Crawley Leisure Centre; it has been knocked down now, sadly. I don't know why they did it there – there was a theatre up the road but they played in the Leisure Centre. They did 'Push It' and I remember thinking that was a really rude song. I remember Salt singing, 'Put your hands on your head... but not that head!' and everyone laughing."

### THE SONG THAT CHANGED MY LIFE

**ARCTIC MONKEYS**

*Brianstorm*

"When I started doing stand-up, I had a regular gig and that was the song that they used to play before they'd put you on. That was around when I started to get paid for stand-up and when I was able to leave teaching. Whenever I hear that song, it always reminds me of when I realised, 'Oh s\*\*t, I can actually make it as a comic.'"

### THE FIRST SONG I REMEMBER HEARING

**BONEY M**

*Brown Girl In The Ring*

"It's a really s\*\*t song. My recollection of my mum and dad's parties is that they'd invite loads of Sri Lankan people over and they'd always play it. They'd start off with disco and pass around beers all the time and play songs like that."

### THE SONG THAT MADE ME WANT TO PERFORM

**PUBLIC ENEMY**

*Fight The Power*

"It was just so exciting. I remember them saying something about Elvis being a racist and being blown away by the fact that they said that. It was a song of empowerment and it made me wish I could do something like that."

### THE SONG I WANT PLAYED AT MY FUNERAL

**LUIS FONSI**

*Despacito*

"I don't think I want it to be sad; I sort of want them to listen to something that might pick them up a bit. So I think I would have 'Despacito'."

### THE SONG I CAN NO LONGER LISTEN TO

**STEVIE WONDER**

*Part-Time Lover*

"When my wife went in to labour and had our first son, I remember rushing to the hospital and 'Part-Time Lover' was playing in the car but I was losing my s\*\*t. Now I can't listen to it, because it reminds me of that panic, that horror and that feeling. It really makes me feel physically horrible."

### THE FIRST ALBUM I BOUGHT

**PRINCE**

*Batman*

"I got it from Woolworths in Crawley, because I had heard 'Batdance'. You know Prince did that whole album? I think 'Batdance' might have been possibly the worst song on it. I mean, I love 'Lemon Crush' but there were some really s\*\*t songs on there. There are songs that were scandalous but I'm speaking ill of the dead."



### THE FIRST SONG I FELL IN LOVE WITH

**MICHAEL JACKSON**

*Working Day And Night*

"I really got into Michael Jackson. I bought the VHS of 'Michael Jackson's Thriller' and on that video, in the making-of documentary, they were playing 'Working Day And Night' off the previous album, 'Off The Wall'. I preferred that song to anything else on there; I preferred it to 'Thriller'. I really loved that song for some reason."

**Romesh: Comedians In A Cuff Talking Growing Up is available to watch on BBC Three's iPlayer channel now**

GO TO [NME.COM](http://NME.COM) FOR MORE SOUNDTRACKS



The wisdom of the NME archives

**THIS WEEK**  
**BOBBY GILLESPIE**  
*Primal Scream*  
September 8, 1997

"If you've got nothing left to say, give up. Otherwise it's just career rock, and we ain't career rock, we're punk rock."



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