

22 SEPTEMBER 2017 / FREE EVERY FRIDAY

# NME

**MUSIC**  
**FILM**  
**STYLE**

**MARILYN**

**MANSON**

Hello  
darkness,  
my old  
friend



# Noonie Bao

Behind every song  
is a Secret Genius.



# NME

## Hello...

I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF reading Dylan Jones' latest book on David Bowie, a kaleidoscopic oral history told through the testimonies of 150 interviewees. I don't know if he's read it yet, but I'm certain that this week's cover star will love it.

Marilyn Manson is a *huge* Bowie fan. If that wasn't obvious to you via the living and breathing art project he inhabits as the Dark Lord of Hollywood, then the words that he wrote for *Rolling Stone* the week after DB's death should do the trick: "Every song of his was a way for me to communicate to others. It was a sedative. An arousal. A love letter I could never have written. It has become and remains a soundtrack to a movie he painted with his voice and guitar. He sang, "*Hope, it's a cheap thing*". I don't need hope to know that he has found his way to the place that equals his untouchable, chameleon-genius beauty."

Marilyn Manson is a character created to communicate the dark and creative inner workings of Brian Warner to the world. He's beautiful, silly, controversial and borderline criminal. The world is always more colourful (as long as that colour is black) when he's making himself heard. It's just another thing we have to thank David Bowie for.

The *NME* review of the new Killers album **p34**



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### Marilyn Manson

"I've always set out to be a disruptive force. 'Tornado' is what I prefer to be called. I like to tear the roof off."

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### The Horrors

"People were jumping so much that glass was falling from the ceiling. They had to shut the pub for three months to renovate it."

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# AGENDA

WHAT EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT THIS WEEK

## There's a new Morrissey tune

Plus: he did his first-ever tweet

MORRISSEY HAS unveiled his new comeback single 'Spent The Day In Bed', and a tour is likely to follow.

Earlier this week, the former Smiths frontman turned solo icon made headlines when he joined Twitter. His first tweet swiftly followed, featuring the words, "Spent the day in bed..."

Turned out this was the name of his jaunty and keyboard-led new single, which has a typically Morrissey blend of melody and the morose as he

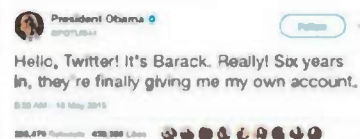
reflects on the horrors of the modern world presented by the media, then chooses to remain in bed rather than get involved. Morrissey will release his 11th album 'Low In High School' on November 17. It was recorded at La Fabrique Studios in France and in Rome at Ennio Morricone's Forum Studios. The record was produced by Joe Chiccarelli – famed for working with the likes of Frank Zappa, The Strokes, Beck and The White Stripes.

WORDS: ANDREW TRENDLELL

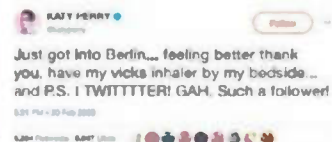


## The greatest first-ever tweets

### BARACK OBAMA



### KATY PERRY



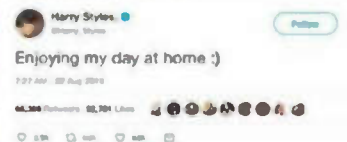
### GRIMES



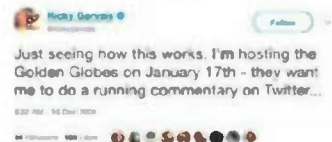
### SKEPTA



### HARRY STYLES



### RICKY GERVAIS



### JOHN CLEESE





EVERYTHING STARTS WITH A WHY

**LOYLE CARNER**  
RAPPER



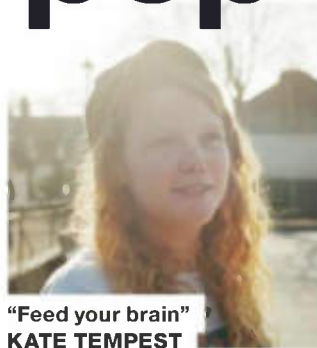
Y, THE NEW FRAGRANCE FOR MEN  
**YVES SAINT LAURENT**

# Freshers' Week advice from pop stars

**It'll be the best of times, it'll be the worst of times. Here's how to get through it**

**"Remain mysterious"**  
**ALT-J**

**Gus Unger-Hamilton:** "It sounds kind of negative, but don't necessarily think the people you meet in your first week are gonna be your best friends for the rest of uni. Sometimes they are, sometimes they're not. Keep your options open; remain mysterious. Don't tell people your surname. I wish I'd joined more societies too."  
**Joe Newman:** "The first year of university is gonna blow your mind. You're away from home for the first time. You're meeting a whole potential new set of friends; you can do what you like. You're around people whose minds are ready to develop – it's a really, really amazing time. Do as much as you can and you won't regret anything."



**"Feed your brain"**  
**KATE TEMPEST**

"If there's a culture where everyone's too cool and they just wanna talk about their hangover and their haircut, but you're actually interested in what you're trying to learn, don't let that intimidate you. If you have a passion for a subject, it's for you. It's a time unlike any other, where you've got access to this crazy library full of stuff. You can suddenly spend three years just feeding your brain. So don't allow yourself to get thrown off path by a load of fashionistas. You've shelled out a hell of a lot of money to be there. Just do you."



**"No time for sleep"**  
**J HUS**

"Chase your dream. Keep going. No time for any sleep. Reach your goals. Don't stop."



**"Eat vegetables"**  
**THE BIG MOON**

**Fern Ford:** "Drink lots of water in between the £1 a pint."  
**Soph Nathan:** "Don't just eat noodles. Vegetables are important."  
**Celia Archer:** "You're gonna meet some really great people and it's gonna be awesome. Don't panic, it's totally fine."



**"Wash your clothes"**  
**GLASS ANIMALS**

**David Bayley:** "Wash your clothes. Don't do that thing where you turn your pants inside out. It's not nice. Don't leave your weed out on the desk when you go to lectures. The maintenance guy will come right in and he'll have that. It's really annoying. What else can I say? Just keep your room clean. It's disgusting after a bit."

**Turn over for the ultimate Freshers' Week playlist**



**MILEY CYRUS**

Told Ellen DeGeneres that sex with Liam Hemsworth is like "a commuter trip on a Concorde jet". Whoosh!



**LETHAL BIZZLE**

Taught Judi Dench how to rap, resulting in the actor being listed as a "grime artist" on Wikipedia.



**JAMES CORDEN**

Caused outrage when he kissed former Trump press secretary Sean Spicer at the Emmys.



**LITTLE MONSTERS**

Lady Gaga has postponed her European tour due to illness. Get well soon!



INTERVIEWS: ANDREW TRENDELL. PHOTOS: COURTNEY FRANCIS, JO METSON, POONEH GHANA. REX FEATURES, GETTY IMAGES



## An absolutely banging Freshers' Week playlist

Be the person who knows the most about new tunes. Pre-drinks will never be the same again

### YUNGEN

*Bestie*

**Who:** London MC with chart ambitions.

**What it says about you:**

You're ready, willing and able to create a lifelong bond over a night on discount voddy.

### LAO RA

*Me Gusta*

**Who:** Colombian-born, London-based pop newcomer.

**What it says about you:** Cheap cans are great, but you're well up for some swanky cocktails should the opportunity arise. Turtle Bay, here we come.

### PALE WAVES

*Television Romance*

**Who:** Manchester's next great indie band.

**What it says about you:** You know exactly which banger will be dominating your next indie club night. It's this one, obv.

### SIGRID

*Don't Kill My Vibe*

**Who:** Norwegian pop newcomer destined to be a star.

**What it says about you:**

A good time never ends when you're about. Nothing will stand in your way. Not even that ghastly Freshers' Flu.



SIGRID

### A HOUSE IN THE TREES

*Tuesday Afternoon*

**Who:** Woozy south London pop collective.

**What it says about you:** Netflix binges are a core part of your hangover cure. Come, join in.

### REJJIE SNOW

*Virgo*

**Who:** King of Irish hip-hop.

**What it says about you:**

That when the hottest talents come through your students' union, you'll be right down the front.

### ECCA VANDAL

*Broke Days, Party Nights*

**Who:** Melbourne-based electro-punk.

**What it says about you:**

A severe lack of student loan won't stop you being the life and soul of the party.



PARCELS

### PARCELS

*Overnight*

**Who:** Funky Aussie band who've worked with Daft Punk.

**What it says about you:** That you're the party-starting queen or king of your block.

### JORJA SMITH

*On My Mind*

**Who:** Midlands singer, pals with Drake.

**What it says about you:** From silky R&B to old-school garage, there's not much that gets past you when it comes to brand new dancefloor fillers.

### SUPERORGANISM

*Something For Your M.I.N.D.*

**Who:** Bonkers pop troupe from all over the globe.

**What it says about you:**

You're probably good for a *Rick And Morty* session on Saturday afternoon.

Get the playlist on [NME.com](http://NME.com)

WORDS: THOMAS SMITH. PHOTOS: PHILIPPE JARRIGEON

## Carner chameleon

**Loyle Carner: rapper, chef, founder of a school for kids with ADHD. And now the face of new YSL Beauty fragrance, Y. We caught up with the all-conquering 21-year-old at the Mercury Music Prize**

**What's your advice to young musicians who think they're never going to make it?**

"Don't worry about all that, man – just keep making music and put it out. SoundCloud, YouTube, shoot the videos in your room, do whatever you want. Just do what you want to do and put it out. It doesn't really matter about making loads of money from it; I'm still paying a mortgage I can't afford but we're getting there, slowly."

**What's happening next for you?**

"Thinking of getting a puppy for my dog because my dog's lonely. I've got my last wisdom tooth coming through so I'm trying to sort that out, and then after that maybe I'll just work on some more music. Kind of in that order."

**What are you gonna do with your next record?**

"I'm not going to tell you. I'm excited to be able to work with

some more live musicians, and just cause some more trouble in the studio, work with some people that I'm big fans of, and yeah, see what happens. No rush."

**Who do you most want to work with?**

"Madlib. He's the best."

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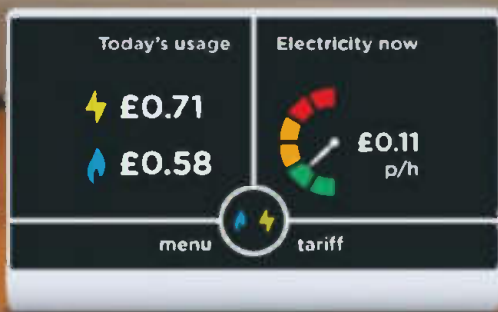
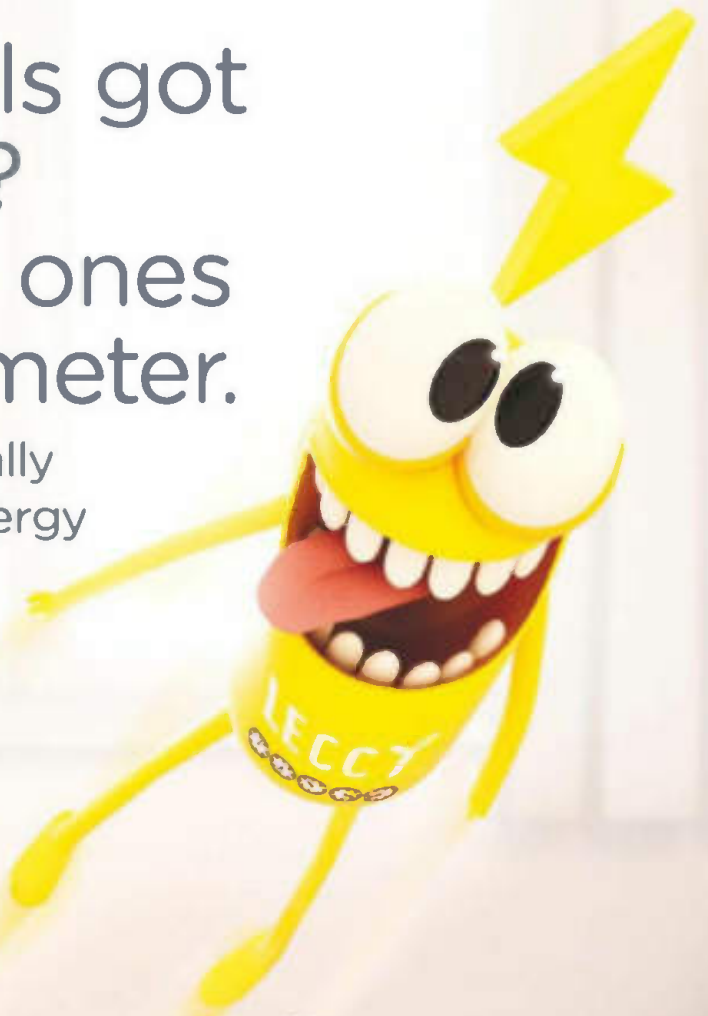
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**THE OVERLOOK HOTEL**

from *The Shining*

We've all overdone it on the old amber nectar and lost track of time. But have you, like Jack Torrance, ever forgotten that you're a murderous psychopath as the bad magic of The Overlook Hotel courses through your alcohol-infused veins? Never say never.

**What we'd order:** A bottle of bourbon, a little glass and some ice. Oh, and an axe for dementedly hunting your family through the corridors.

# 5 fictional bars we'd like to get squiffy in

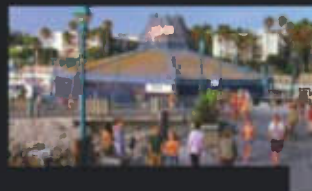
We like a drink. We love pop culture. We like imagining parallel universes in which fictional things are real



**MOE'S TAVERN**  
from *The Simpsons*

Moe Szyslak's joint: a place where Barney Gumble is a hero, Karl and Lenny can always be found, and Homer Simpson forever avoids his responsibilities. Just don't make the mistake of going to Joe's in Shelbyville.

**What we'd order:** Well, duh. Can't get enough of that Duff.



**THE BAIT SHOP**  
from *The OC*

Chances are you can hold your drink better than Seth Cohen (Adam Brody), hero of this California-based teen drama. This venue was host indie faves The Killers, Death Cab For Cutie (Seth's favourite) and Modest Mouse. It was bangers by the beach on the regular.

**What we'd order:** If you're trying to impress bartender Alex (Olivia Wilde), it'll be JD straight from a hip flask. And you'll neck it by the speakers "because I don't care about tinnitus."



**PADDY'S PUB**  
from *It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia*

The gang are not the greatest bar proprietors in the world, so we probably need to visit their joint en masse before it goes broke. In one episode, a journalist even dubs it the worst in Philly. Still, how many boozers do you know that have their own theme: "They say the world's your oyster, man, but oysters ain't for me..." Altogether now!

**What we'd order:** The beer is cheap, but you could also score hard drugs, so take your pick.



**THE MOTHER BLACK CAP**

from *Withnail and I*

The two sozzled heroes of this comedy tire of their rancid flat and take refuge at this London boozier where the owner turfs them out for being a couple of "perfumed ponces". The pub's been demolished now, which is what would have happened to Withnail if he'd got into a fight with that owner.

**What we'd order:** The finest wines known to humanity, as the lads later request in a rural tearoom.

WORDS: JORDAN BASSETT



1

Times, per day, that the appropriately named Ronnie Wood claims to have sex.



1,000

Juggalos who marched on the White House to protest being labelled a gang.



2

Emmys won by Donald Glover. He's the first black person to win for directing a comedy.



9

Celeb impersonators on the BBC's *Even Better Than The Real Thing*. Harrowing stuff.

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# A half-useful guide to South East Asia

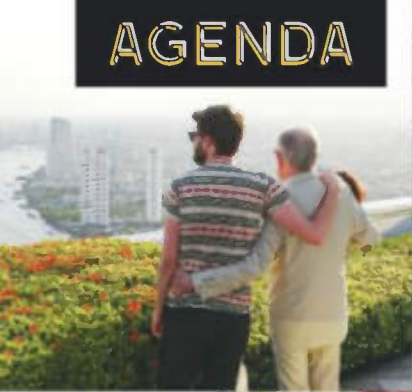
Comedian Jack Whitehall's new show sees him travel across South East Asia – with his 77-year-old dad. Here's his ultimate guide to the premier gap yah stomping grounds

## PHUKET, THAILAND

**The vibe:** "Phuket was the nicest bit of the trip. It's very much like Benidorm. A mix between Benidorm and Ibiza, but in Thailand: a sort of paradise. It feels very touristy, very designer, but quite *me*."  
**What to do:** "I really enjoyed the Full Moon Party. It sounds so tragic, but people doing

flaming poi in the middle of the party was cool. There's lots of glow paint that you can never get off."  
**What not to do:** "I went swimming in the sea like, 'I'm going to swim round this tranquil and pretty island', but I got the worst sunstroke and was dragged out. It took me an hour and a half. It was horrendous. It was getting to the point where I thought I was going to be one of those people you read about who drifted to shore three days later."





## HANOI, VIETNAM

**The vibe:** “Hanoi has an amazing thing where every Sunday night, everyone goes out onto the street in the middle of the city to play games. There are people on stilts, little toy cars and kids travelling around in them. It’s an amazing community experiment – it’s basically what happens when you live in a country where they don’t have *Downtown Abbey*.”

**What to do:** “Play the street games! I actually had a Segway race around the main square against a gentleman of restricted height. Is that the politically correct way of saying that?”

**What not to do:** “Use the roads. You have to pray every time your cross because there are no lights. It’s like *Mad Max*. I don’t drive so I’m not that aware of other drivers and not very good on the road. I didn’t pass my Cycling Proficiency [Test]. I’m just not a good person to have on the road. To be in control of my dad on the front of a rickshaw on the roads of Hanoi – it was genuinely scary.”

## POIPET, CAMBODIA

**The vibe:** “They’ve basically built Vegas but on the Cambodian border. It’s illegal to gamble in Thailand so the Thais go over. If Blackpool is a tacky Vegas, this is three or four notches below Blackpool. It looks like you’ve travelled back in time to maybe the 1970s. We stayed in the weirdest hotel and my dad’s bathroom had a urinal in it – he *did not* like that.”

**What to do:** “We went gambling, which was quite funny. We were trying to film it but all the Thai people were there illegally gambling, so we got shut down quite quickly. I think I lost a fair bit of my dad’s money.”

**What not to do:** “The food was not good. You go down the market and they’ve got rats and frogs and crickets. I ate a rat when I was there which I still haven’t quite got over. The food market that I went to in Cambodia, I had to run away and throw up in an alleyway. The smells and the stuff... There was a woman with a live frog chopping his head off. It was horrible.”

## DA NANG, VIETNAM

**The vibe:** “They put lots of floaty lanterns out onto the river which was very pretty. It looks like a set.”

**What to do:** “I had an amazing *bánh mì*. And I rented a bike, had a cycle. Bought one of those hats – but that was a mistake, you shouldn’t wear them. It looks silly and disrespectful.”

**What not to do:** “They had a tax on boats so they build boats that look like a basket to cheat it. It’s completely round; I just ended up being very dizzy and frustrated, so that would be a no-no.”

## BANGKOK, THAILAND

**The vibe:** “I wasn’t that big a fan of Bangkok. You’re just in traffic all the time, and it’s a really ugly city, so most of my memories of Bangkok are being sat in a car for hours on end. We went to some quite weird places as well: Khaosan Road is a gap year tragedy with lots of old men with ponytails that look like Gary Glitter, and people thrusting scorpions in your face.”

**What to do:** “Elephant polo – that was good. Quite a *pointless* sport, but they’re so slow it’s relatively easy to get the hang of it quickly. It’s not the kind of game you can play on a whim in the park though.”

**What not to do:** “We had quite a depressing afternoon where we went to an Irish bar on Khaosan Road, drinking Guinness and eating chicken out of a basket. It wasn’t actually on the show, but that was quite a low moment. Don’t go to the Irish bar on Khaosan Road and eat chicken out of a basket.”

**Jack Whitehall: Travels With My Father is on Netflix from September 22**

## Take Marmite, ditch your dad

**Jack’s Far East holiday dos and don’ts**

### DO TAKE MARMITE

“They don’t have it. They have Vegemite, which is not the same.”

### DON’T TAKE PEANUTS

“My dad packed peanuts. I was like, ‘You *do* know that peanuts are the base to nearly every dish in the Far East? I don’t think you need to bring KP peanuts.’”

### DON’T TAKE YOUR DAD

“The way he interacts with foreign people, you’re basically babysitting for five weeks.”

### DON’T GET CONNED

“Don’t interact with anyone.”

### DON’T GET THE S\*\*TS

“Avoid the tap water. Drink bottled water. Ice is very dangerous. I don’t know what the rules are – I just avoided it.”

### DO TAKE A GOOD BOOK

“Lonely Planet. No, it can’t be Lonely Planet. Try *Eat, Pray, Love?*”

### DON’T WORRY ABOUT YOUR LANGUAGE SKILLS

“Slow and loud. Just repeat slow and loud.”



# IMAGINE DRAGONS

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Recommended by our Müller Rice ambassador  
& World Champion,  
Adam Gemili.

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World Champion  
4 x 100m relay  
London 2017

**Tasty B**  
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Müller Rice lover  
Since 2013



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with fruit that’s light and dreamy”**

# ON THE RECORD

BIG OPINIONS. NO FILTER.



THIS WEEK

## Why karaoke is the greatest of all art forms

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR one single piece of advice to carry through life, then may we suggest this: never trust anyone who doesn't like karaoke. The way I see it, karaoke is the most glorious, liberating activity around, a chance to make an idiot of yourself with limited repercussions and bond with friends and strangers alike. If you're very lucky, it'll also give you the chance to lead an entire bar full of people in a 'Bohemian Rhapsody' singalong and for six wonderful minutes truly know what it's like to be the rock star you always knew you could have been if it wasn't for an extreme lack of talent and zero record label interest.

I've just been on holiday and spent roughly 60 per cent of my trip – give or take a few per cent – with a microphone clenched in one hand and whiskey with ginger ale in the other, channelling my inner Adele at a selection of karaoke bars

across southern California. Madonna might have sung "only when I'm dancing can I feel this free", but we're pretty sure that she meant karaoke.

And I'm not the only one in awe of this modern art form. *Carpool Karaoke* – in which James Corden sings along with heavy-duty pop stars such as Justin Bieber, Katy Perry and Ed Sheeran while driving aimlessly around Los Angeles – started off a life in 2011 as a Red Nose Day sketch with George Michael, before becoming a short segment in US talk show *The Late Late Show*. It's now taken on a whole life of its own with YouTube hits in the multiple millions and a spin-off show on Apple Music. Earlier this month it also won a Creative Arts Emmy for the

A master of his art



second year in a row – yep, that's a prestigious Hollywood award for *karaoke*. Meanwhile in Japan, where the karaoke machine was invented in 1971, a Ferris wheel has just been fitted with karaoke machines so riders can sing while they spin, proof that getting on a high-thrill fairground ride will make you want to sing 'I Will Survive' more than ever.

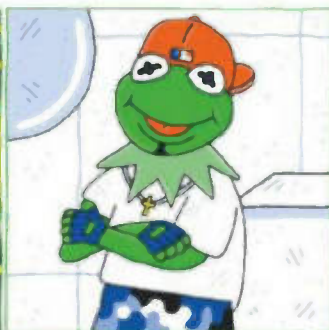
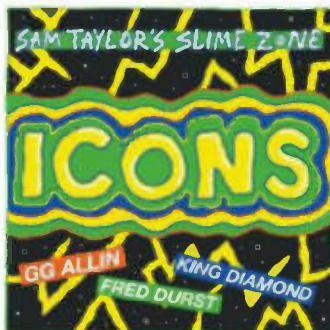
Even though professional singers should technically be banned from karaoke – it's basically showing off, right?

– a fair few musical greats have been seen dabbling recently. Alex Turner was spotted crooning his way through Santana and Rob Thomas' 1999 cheeseball classic 'Smooth', Mac DeMarco's been doing Billy Joel numbers in Brooklyn and – wait, it's Alex Turner again, this time with Miles Kane and Lana Del Rey in tow, all belting out Elton John's 'Tiny Dancer'.

If you're at a loose end tonight, then it should have become obvious what you now need to do. Find your local karaoke night, pick your guiltiest pleasure tune, serenade your adoring public and truly know what happiness is. @leoniemaycooper

**"I spent 60% of my holiday channelling Adele"**

PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES





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# THINGS WE LIKE

## THIS WEEK'S OBJECTS OF DESIRE



**Simply Marvel-lous**  
Two icons unite for the first time in the *Spider-Man/Deadpool Vol 1* graphic novel. **£13.99 in-store at hmv**



**Dead good**  
The comic book heroes paint the town red in *Spider-Man/Deadpool Vol 2*. **£11.99 in-store at hmv**



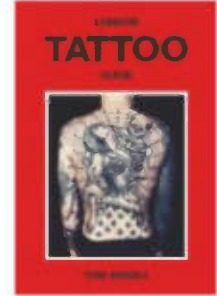
**Charge your glasses**  
Ray-Ban's new Marshal frames are Aviators with an edge. **£136 ray-ban.com**



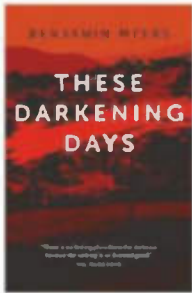
**Art star**  
A Jean-Michel Basquiat exhibition has just opened – check these skate decks. **£395 shop.barbican.org.uk**



**Thoughtful fashion**  
The charity Mind is working with street artist David Shillinglaw on these tees. **£36 culturelabel.com**



**Tat's entertainment**  
Work out where to get your next ink with the *London Tattoo Guide*. **£12.99 amazon.co.uk**



**Dark times**  
Benjamin Myers' *These Darkening Days* is a crime novel that'll have you gripped. **£7.99 waterstones.com**



**Simply iconic**  
Go for vintage sass with this classic Janis Joplin band tee. **£15.95 nmemerch.com**



**Whiskey business**  
Bulleit 10 Year Old Bourbon will keep you warm. **£42.95 thewhiskyexchange.com**



**Hard as nails**  
Le Mini Macaron's gel manicure kits make doing your nails a piece of cake. **£34.99 feelunique.com**



**Magic man**  
Writer Dylan Jones spoke to over 180 of the Starman's pals for *David Bowie: A Life*. **£13.60 amazon.co.uk**



**Get fruity**  
Embrace the 1980s with this pink Pineapple dance top. **£12 missselfridge.com**



**Hot stuff**  
This pineapple and habanero chilli table sauce is sweet, fruity and fiery. Yum. **£3.95 worldofzing.com**



**Body power**  
New knickers label Les Girls Les Boys offers up cosy basics for everyone. **£55 lesgirllesboys.com**

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## Apple iPhone 8



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<sup>1</sup>Charging mat sold separately. \*From\* prices available to new & upgrading customers on our 24 month 500MB data and 300 minutes Essential plan with the iPhone 8 and our 24 month 12GB data and All-you-can-eat minutes Advanced plan with the iPhone 8 at standard 4GB plan price. Not available with other offers. Prices include £5 monthly discount for paying by a recurring method, such as Direct Debit. Each May, your monthly package price will increase by an amount up to the RPI rate, published in the February that year. Three was named Best Network for Data at the uSwitch Mobile Awards 2017, voted for by consumers. We won the award through great offers like 4G at no extra cost and our generous choice of data plans including all-you-can-eat.

# WHEN LIGHT MEETS DARK



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# What's ON your Headphones?

THIS WEEK

## Saltburn-by-the-Sea

"You feel so welcome"



**NATALIE RISBROUGH** >  
24, artist

Listening to:  
**ENTER SHIKARI**  
*Live Outside*  
"The music makes me feel energised and excited."

**Wearing:** Adidas T-shirt, New Look jeans, Vans shoes.  
**Best thing about Saltburn-by-the-Sea:** "Everyone makes you feel so welcome wherever you go."

**THOMAS NORMAN** >  
29, IT manager

Listening to:  
**BUCK 65**  
*Wicked And Weird*  
"I saw them at Leeds Festival eight years ago and it's my go-to track."

**Wearing:** Lacoste jacket, Topshop jumper, Nike sunglasses.  
**Best thing about Saltburn-by-the-Sea:** "Oscars Fish & Chips are pretty tasty."



< **MATTHEW BUTLER**  
31, actor

Listening to:  
**NEIL YOUNG**  
*Albuquerque*  
"He's just brilliant."

**Wearing:** Topman jacket, Matalan jumper, Levi's jeans.  
**Best thing about Saltburn-by-the-Sea:** "The whole seaside character which other towns have lost."



**KAREN DELGADO** >  
31, healthcare assistant

Listening to:  
**MICHAEL BUBLÉ**  
*Home*  
"It makes me think of home in the Philippines."

**Wearing:** Jack Wills gilet, Gap jeans.  
**Best thing about Saltburn-by-the-Sea:** "The Saltburn Cliff Lift is nice."



PHOTOS: DAVID WALA





**GOD DAMN SON OF A GUN**

PHOTOS BY PERDU

**He likes Johnny Depp, William S Burroughs and collecting illegal human skeletons. He dislikes birthday parties, getting up early and wants to blow up everyone at his funeral. He's Marilyn Manson and he's back with a new album. Leonie Cooper meets him in Berlin**

“I wanna look like I'm dead but people still wanna f\*\*k me,” drawls Marilyn Manson in a voice deeper and darker than a freshly dug grave. We're in a dim Berlin basement and the self-appointed God of F\*\*k is telling *NME* how he wants to be lit for our video shoot. He's sipping neat vodka and looking impressively sharp in a sleek tartan suit and black-out aviator-style sunglasses, with heavy silver rings lining his pale tattooed hands. As charming as he is crude, he's a vintage Hollywood star by way of a *Grimms'* *Fairy Tales* villain, playfully kissing the back of your hand one minute but threatening to hunt you down the next.

It's been 23 years since Manson and his band released their caustic industrial-metal debut 'Portrait Of An American Family', while the record that made him a star, pop pariah and the most famous Satanist in the world – 'Antichrist Superstar' – came out in 1996. Yet the man born Brian Warner is now a more powerful cultural force than ever before, just as likely to pop up on your television – over the past few years he's had roles in *Sons Of Anarchy*, *Salem* and *Californication* – as your headphones.

The younger generation of zeitgeisty musicians all seem to be tripping over themselves to get a bit of Manson action, too. Justin Bieber has passed off old Marilyn Manson shirt designs as his own merchandise, Skepta proudly hung out with him at the British Fashion Awards and rapper Lil Uzi Vert was recently spotted wearing a £160,000 chain featuring a huge, blinged out rendering of Manson's face. In 2017 Marilyn Manson is well and truly a modern icon – but what of his music? On the eve of his 10th album, 'Heaven Upside Down', Marilyn Manson is out to prove that this matters just as much as the myth and madness that surrounds him.

“Have you got to hear the album?”

**I have – 'Kill4Me' is my favourite song on it.**

“Is it the most sarcastic pop song ever?”

**Is that what you want it to be?**

“No, I didn't intend it to be a pop song. Tyler Bates, who is my music partner, is also a sick, f\*\*king dark, twisted f\*\*ker. He scores films [*Guardians Of The Galaxy*, *John Wick*, *Dawn Of The Dead*] and we were trying to find the point in the record where there was going to be a story – that was the point when the story began. It's very romantic – I wrote the lyrics almost as a poem. I just simply said, 'Would you kill for me?' It was almost trying to make fun of the fact that I hate songs where people are whining and saying 'I'd die for you'. I don't like it when people ask questions in songs because they sound like pussies.”

**Do you often write romantic songs?**

“I think the whole record's romantic. In a strange way.”

**Is 'Heaven Upside Down' your most romantic record to date?**

“It's the most realised. My biggest and most fierce, certainly. Everyone likes their new record so I'm not going to sit here and say 'I love my new record', but this record is important in the scheme of what needs to happen and not in the 'I need to save the world' or 'I give a s\*\*t about anything other than making fun of the musicians who can't make this record' [way], or making my own records in the past feel bad for themselves for not being this record. I had to really outdo myself.”

**You announced the album last year with a video featuring**





## The life of Brian

**1969**

Brian Warner is born in Canton, Ohio.

**1989**

Music journalist Brian forms Marilyn Manson & The Spooky Kids – named after actress Marilyn Monroe and cult leader Charles Manson.

**1994**

Trent Reznor of Nine Inch Nails produces the band's debut album, 'Portrait Of An American Family'. It freaks out loads of people – as does Manson's Gothic rag doll look.

**1998**

The glam-tastic 'Mechanical Animals' debuts at Number One in the US charts. It is rumoured that Manson has breast implants for the album artwork.

**1999**

Manson is implicated in the actions of the Columbine school shooters by certain media outlets. The teen killers were later proven not to be fans of Manson, however his intelligent, measured response to the tragedy in documentary *Bowling For Columbine* sees many revise their opinion of him.

**2005**

Marries burlesque dancer Dita Von Teese. Surrealist film director Alejandro Jodorowsky officiates the ceremony. Teese files for divorce the following year, later citing Manson's affair with 19-year-old actress Evan Rachel Wood.

**2007**

Launches his own brand of absinthe, his favourite drink. It's called Mansinthe.

**2010**

Collaborates with *Twin Peaks* director David Lynch on an exhibition of watercolours in Vienna.

**2014**

Plays a white supremacist in the final series of biker drama *Sons Of Anarchy*.

**a Trump-like man in a suit being decapitated...**

"The only thing it had to do with politics was what people wanted to make it. It could be a preacher, it could just be a businessman. It could be anything, but in no way does it say it is Trump. But of course when you release it on election day, it makes a statement."

**It definitely did. Is that why you didn't vote in last year's US election, to make a statement?**

"I had no choice, no... no *reason* to vote."

**Why not?**

"Because I'd have had to get up early."

**Does the fact that Donald Trump is now your president concern you?**

"It doesn't worry me any more than any of the other presidents. The only president I ever voted for was Barack Obama. Just because I thought it was such a unique period in history that I wanted to do it just so that I could say I'd done it. I didn't really think that my vote would make a difference."

**Kanye West has said that he will run for president. What are the chances of us seeing you doing the same?**

"Only if Johnny Depp is president and I'm the vice-president."

**What would your policies be?**

"Well, we'd set new holidays for sure. Johnny Depp Day, Marilyn Manson Day. I wouldn't live in the White House... It's too white and too stupid-looking."

**Where do you live right now?**

"Los Angeles. My house is not unlike this room. I like to keep it very dim. It's decorated with the obvious things you'd expect Marilyn Manson's house to be decorated with, but it's not like a girl vampire's house from a f\*\*king horror film. It contains a lot of very sacred and beautiful things from my friends and things that I have acquired from scary people – things that are illegal and terrifying."

**Tell me about the illegal things.**

"Well, human skeletons are all illegal. Most are seven-year-old Chinese boys, usually. I mean, it's not the whole kid – just his skull."

**What's been your most recent purchase in terms of home décor?**

"I have an antique abortion table just in my guest room in the event [that I need it]. You never know."

**The occult imagery you were playing around with 20 years ago seems to be mainstream now, like Lana Del Rey putting a hex on Trump. How do you feel about it? Do you feel vindicated?**

"Is this before or after sex with Lana Del Rey?"

**Pardon?**

"I said, is this before or after I had or would have sex with Lana Del Rey?"

**I didn't ask if you had sex with Lana Del Rey.**

"I didn't say I did."

**Did you say you didn't?**

"I didn't say I didn't or I did... You know how she sings, she's dead still and she bats her eyelashes. So I would imagine, hypothetically, [in] sexual parameters that she would do the same thing. I would also imagine that in a witchcraft-type environment she would also just bat her eyelashes and that might not really be effective. Although she is a very lovely girl."

**You seem to be more visible than ever at the moment, in art, music, film, television and fashion. Is that what you always wanted or does that go against what you set out to do, to be a disruptive force?**

"Well, I've always set out to be a disruptive force. 'Tornado' is what I prefer to be called. You just stand back, you look at it and behold its presence before you get caught up in it and it tears your roof off."

**You get Judy Garlanded.**

"Yes, yes, that's right. We're not in Kansas anymore."

**What about Justin Bieber, who sold a shirt with your face on it – what happened there?**

"I got half a million dollars richer."

**Do you hold it against him personally?**

"No, no, no. I went to meet him at a bar. I saw a girl wearing a baby blue shirt and blonde hair. I was looking for Justin Bieber and then that was Justin Bieber. And then he said that he made me relevant and I said you're never going to be relevant and then he ran over a paparazzi [sic] leaving church. So God bless him, I hope he does well."

**He's 23 – what were you like when you were 23?**

"That was the first year I did cocaine."

**Who did you do it with?**

"I can't say, I can't say... [Nine Inch Nails frontman] Trent Reznor. Me and Trent are good friends now, again. I really loved his appearance on *Twin Peaks*. It was awesome. I'm glad to be friends with him again because I wouldn't really be here if it weren't for him and I give him credit for that. I mean, I would be here, but not in the same way. He was smart enough to see potential in me and pointed that out and helped me realise it."

**You turn 50 in just over a year – what's the party going to be like?**

"I hate birthdays. I'm not good at parties, I'm terrible at parties. I don't even know the difference between a party and a problem."

**Your father passed away recently – what made you want to continue with your current tour? Is that what he would have wanted?**

"Yeah, absolutely. He wanted that. I went to Ohio, I saw my dad and I got to say goodbye to him. I didn't know he was going to die that quickly. But his sister was there and his sister tried to hold hands with him, and – my father would like this story to be told – he did not hold hands with her because he died with his hand on his dick, like a straight pimp."

**Is that how you plan to go as well?**

"I don't plan to go at all. But he went in a strong way. He taught me everything I know, and of course I miss him but I think that what he would want is for me to drive on and channel that energy and make it strong. That's why I did not cancel my tour."

**You have no children yourself – would you like to one day?**

"Well, I'm not quite sure."

**But you are a godfather, right?**

"Godfather of Lily-Rose Depp, yep. I was there in the house on her first date. And I gave her her first pair of high heels when she was in diapers. She vomited on me."

**Do you let personal loss and pain into your records?**

"I don't think so. When I look back at my favourite records such as [David Bowie's] 'Ziggy Stardust' or 'Diamond Dogs', I don't really think about what Bowie was going through at the time, I just listen to it and I put myself into the emotion of it. I think it's very important now more than ever to separate this idea of celebrity, which is the most insulting word that anyone could call

me, because I'm not a celebrity, I'm a rock star. I'm a musician, an artist, whatever – I'm not actually technically a very good musician. But I'm not a celebrity; *anyone* could be a celebrity. So if anyone hears something, I want them to hear what they want to hear – I don't want to tell them what to hear."

**Who was the first counter-cultural figure you became obsessed with?**

"William S Burroughs – I was 15 and I read *Interzone* and *Naked Lunch*. Literature was my first thing to be drawn into... Dalí would be the ultimate person I identified with because he was everything, and he was what he wanted to be. I have his art and photographs of him that no one else has. One of the greatest compliments I ever got was in *Rolling Stone* – they said not since Hitler or Salvador Dalí has anyone taken something from the inside and destroyed it outward. That's a strong hit-list of comparisons. Dalí wanted to take everything he saw and hated and he would just infiltrate it and pretend like he liked it and f\*\*k it up. That's what I do. The song 'Kill4Me' – that's a good example. It sounds like a pop song and the record label asked me to make a clean version and I said, 'F\*\*k you'. I made a clean version and it's like, 'Would you f\*\*k f\*\*k f\*\*k for me'. I just put more 'f\*\*k's in."

**Quentin Tarantino is developing a Charles Manson film at the moment – who do you think he should cast?**

"Vincent Gallo, Jeremy Davies... I wouldn't wanna be in it. It's too obvious."

**I interviewed your friend, the actor Charlie Hunnam, the other day. He said he calls you 'c\*\*ty bollocks'...**

"Yes he does, ha!"

**He also said that your new record was "f\*\*king intense". How do you like that?**


"It's good and he meant it... Charlie is very sensitive, and Charlie gave me the best advice on *Sons Of Anarchy*. In all my scenes with him I would say, 'How do you do this?' and he said, 'Just pretend like you're crazy and you don't know it, like in real life.'"

**You work in the same world as Chester Bennington – I was wondering if you knew him?**

"I met him; I wasn't friends with him... When it comes to that, I've told everyone – and this came after Kurt Cobain, because in my opinion, I don't really want to come to a conclusion about Kurt Cobain's death – but I just told everyone around me, 'If you see me and I'm dead and a lot of people around me are dead, then it was not a suicide'. Even in my will I put that I want explosives in my coffin so that everyone at my funeral gets blown up."

'Heaven Upside Down' is out on October 6

**The story behind Manson's 10th album**



The record was initially called 'Say10' and was supposed to come out on February 14, 2017. However, when Manson wrote 'Heaven Upside Down' he delayed the album in order to include it. "That's why it was not [out] on Valentine's Day, and plus I wanted to break every girl's heart in the world," he tells *NME*. The album is a defiant one. "It is very much about me saying, 'I am ready to take on the world, f\*\*k you'. [It's also about] then meeting somebody and realising that I need that person."

**"I'VE ALWAYS SET OUT TO BE A DISRUPTIVE FORCE"**



Artificial Pleasure's Phil McDonnell brings the glam to Rooftop Film Club's bar



Bastille frontman Dan Smith, who curated CineJam, soaks up the sun after Artificial Pleasure's set

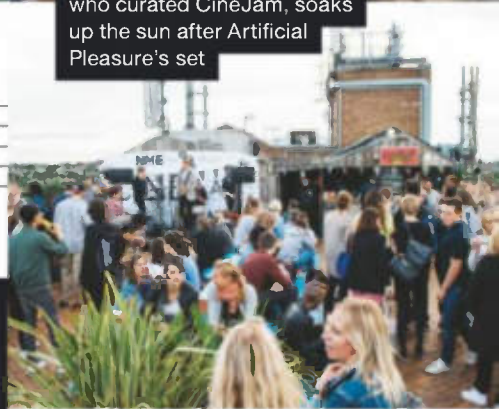


Bastille's synthpop buds Jagara give it some on CineJam's opening night

NME AND BFI PRESENT

# CINE JAM

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Bastille keyboardist Kyle Simmons gets well into Jagara's set

# Raising the roof

This summer, CineJam – in collaboration with BFI, Zig-Zag and the Rooftop Film Club – took over the sun-kissed rooftop of the Bussey Building in Peckham for a unique series of live gigs and film screenings, all curated by Bastille. Here's what went down



Dutch duo The Indien prove they're just as comfortable offstage as on



Sundara Karma here, having a bloody lovely time





Every CineJamgoer got to enjoy *this* panoramic view of London's sunny skyline from atop south London's Bussey Building



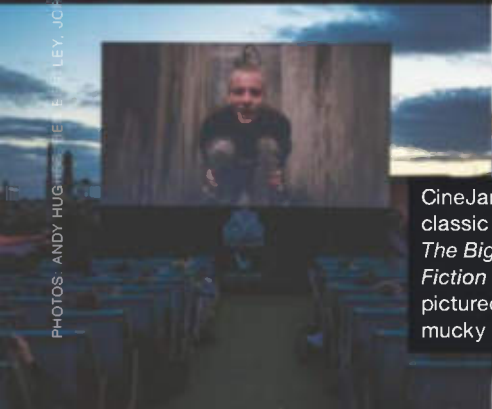
With their headphones prepped for the film, a couple snuggles up in one of Rooftop Film Club 'Love Seats'. Cosy.



Here's Norwegian pop phenomenon Dagny debuting her forthcoming single 'The Night'



Tom Grennan performs under the NME gazebo



CineJam's line-up of classic films included *The Big Lebowski*, *Pulp Fiction* and *Trainspotting*, pictured here in all its mucky glory





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Film by Edouard Fousset  
Photo credit: Ben Bentley / Jordan Curia Hughes



# HORROR STORY

The Horrors (l-r):  
Tom Furse, Rhys Webb,  
Faris Badwan, Joe Spurgeon,  
Joshua Hayward

Back to their best on fifth record 'V', The Horrors' Faris Badwan and Rhys Webb talk Jordan Bassett through their first decade of making a racket



## THE BEGINNING – WITH EYELINER

*Strange House (2007)*

**The sound:** A garage punk-inspired Gothfest of swirling Hammond organs and Faris' barked vocals.

**Faris:** "When you start a band, it's not like you know how to make records. We just wanted to make a racket and have fun. That's how all records should be made."

**The look:** Zombie Goths with huge hair.

**Rhys:** "We are a gang and we looked like one. It was a DIY look... The shirts were from school uniform shops. Nothing cost more than 10 quid."

**Rhys' highlight:** "We played at [London pub] The Old Blue Last... It was such an insane gig. People were jumping up and down so much that glass was falling from the ceiling. They shut the pub for three months after that gig because they had to renovate it."

## THE SONIC BREAKTHROUGH

*Primary Colours (2009)*

**The sound:** An unexpected about-turn; expansive synths and soaring melodies.

**Faris:** "We surprised ourselves with that record. We were really excited about the tracks. It sounded unique."

**The look:** Toned-down street Goth.

**Rhys:** "When we started, most of us were in our late teens... In your early twenties, you feel different. Things change. We grew up a little bit."

**Faris' lowlight:** "We played those songs to Polydor and they said, 'These aren't gonna get played on the radio.' We ended up getting dropped."

## THE PARTY YEARS

*Skying (2011)*

**The sound:** The Horrors go baggy!

**Rhys:** "We were definitely having euphoric... 'experiences'!"

**The look:** A splash of colour.

**Rhys:** "I started to wear a lot of paisley shirts to reflect the psychedelic influence in the music."

**Rhys' highlight:** "It was just a great time in London. There was a really big scene of young people wearing good clothes and enjoying music."

## THE LOW POINT

*Luminous (2014)*

**The sound:** A continuation of the expansive sound the band explored on 'Skying': heady synths and pulverising bass.

**Rhys:** "There were moments we didn't enjoy. We never really had a falling out but there were moments where we were retreading old ground."

**The look:** Just like the 'Skying' era.

**Faris:** "When you're excited, naturally things do change. The whole aesthetic hadn't shifted as a result of us not being invigorated or excited."

**Faris' lowlight:** "The video for 'So Now You Know' didn't feel like it had enough of The Horrors in it. It felt like it could have been any band."

## THE HARD AND FAST COMEBACK

*V (2017)*

**The sound:** Industrial elements – grinding percussion and shimmering, metallic guitar riffs – replace the psychedelia of old.

**Faris:** "Our live shows have always been aggressive and maybe that didn't make its way onto the last record. But it's back."

**The look:** All black and back to basics.

**Faris:** "With 'Luminous', everyone had gone off in their own direction visually, which felt like a good representation [of us having difficulties]. We've brought that gang aesthetic back again."

**Rhys' highlight:** "The songs were coming together with us not really thinking about it. It felt really natural and spontaneous again."

Read our review of 'V' on NME.com







**HEADS UP:  
NEW STYLES  
NOW PLAYING**

# RADAR

THIS WEEK'S ESSENTIAL NEW RELEASES

## Best NEW tracks And when to drop them

### BEST FOR PROPOSING YUNGBLUD

*I Love You, Will You Marry Me*

Doncaster lad Dominic Harrison delivers unashamed romance over a rollicking tune.

### BEST FOR CHARGING YOUR PHONE SOFI TUKKER

*Best Friend*

They appeared on the iPhone X advert but there's more to this New York tropical pop duo.

### BEST FOR '90S KIDS SHAMIR

*90s Kids*

The Las Vegas scamp teams up with Father Records to make this experimental lo-fi gem.

### BEST FOR A TRIUMPHANT COMEBACK CRAIG DAVID

*Heartline*

Craig returns (again!) with this understated number, on which he laments a lost love.

### BEST FOR DEFENDING YOUR CITY MINA ROSE

*Lemons and Limes*

The Sarf Londoner rails against gentrification to the sound of sassy reggae.

### BEST FOR ONLY CHILDREN FALL OUT BOY

*The Last Of The Real Ones*

"I was just an only child of the universe" is the chant on this buoyant electro-rock banger.

### BEST FOR LATE-NIGHT CHILLING REX ORANGE COUNTY

*Edition*

The 19-year-old Alex O'Connor evokes the sound of Frank Ocean on this woozy piano-led track.

### BEST FOR KICKING BACK JESSIE WARE

*Alone*

The queen of cool does her classy thing on this languid, soulful piece of R&B. Damn, it's dreamy.

### BEST FOR SWIPING RIGHT BJÖRK

*The Gate*

She's called her new record "a Tinder album" and this single recreates the rush of falling in love.

### BEST FOR FEELING REFLECTIVE PHOEBE BRIDGERS

*Funeral*

This hushed, acoustic folk tracks meanders through a catalogue of aching regrets. With strings!

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PHOEBE BRIDGERS

## Say it with Flowers

An album on which band leader Brandon Flowers bares himself more than ever before

### THE KILLERS

Wonderful Wonderful



OPEN HONEST SPIRITUAL

#### THE TITLE FIGHT

between Mike Tyson and Buster Douglas that the standout track from The Killers' fifth album is named after was one of boxing's most legendary upsets, in which a 42-1 outsider KO'd the self-styled 'Baddest Man on the Planet' to become heavyweight champion of the world. You might assume –



given Brandon Flowers' well-documented love of one-horse towns, dustland fairytales and American dreamers – that 'Tyson vs Douglas' would be written from the underdog's perspective, punching up, but in fact it's the opposite: the song is about the fear of his own kids seeing him knocked down and

usurped, just like Iron Mike was on that fateful night in Tokyo. Heavy lies the crown, but Flowers still guards it jealously.

As well he might: The Killers' ascent to the top of

the pile didn't happen easily, or by accident. In the five years since their last album, Flowers has had to deal with chronic writer's block (see the meditative 'Have All The Songs

Been Written?'), the decision of two of his bandmates to in effect retire from touring and his wife Tana's ongoing struggles with PTSD. You can understand, then, why lead single 'The Man' – for all its puff-chested front of white-funk invulnerability – has some fun at the expense of Flowers' younger, more cocksure self, who presumably imagined that real life wasn't something he'd ever have to worry about once he saw off The Bravery.

The rest of 'Wonderful Wonderful' makes it clear that isn't the case. The title track, sprouted from the same gnarled root as their 2007 Lou Reed

collaboration 'Tranquillize', is a desperate call to his wife to "stay on the path that leads to the well", while the self-explanatory 'Rut' has to claw its way out of listlessness to reach its euphoric peak. Elsewhere, Flowers' faith is foregrounded to an unusual degree – the actor Woody Harrelson pops up to introduce the swampy disco-rock of 'The Calling' with a reading from the Book of Matthew, while 'Life To Come' is a U2-sized arena-shaker about how marriage isn't just for this life but the next one, too.

As a songwriter, Flowers has never been particularly guarded about himself – he's neurotic, driven, sentimental and sometimes corny – but he bares more on 'Wonderful Wonderful' than ever before, and the result is the band's best album since 2006's 'Sam's Town'. It might get lonely at the top, but The Killers aren't going anywhere just yet. **Barry Nicolson**

## Best track

### TYSON VS DOUGLAS

AKA the best song The War On Drugs never wrote, a chugging synth-rock lament for lost greatness whose chorus – "When I saw him go down, it felt like somebody lied" – simply explodes out of the speakers.



# Spark of genius

A tempestuous tribute to a world on fire

## ENTER SHIKARI

*The Spark*



ROCK ELECTRO POLITICS



LOTS OF MUSICIANS ARE busy making albums about the political chaos engulfing the world today, but only Enter Shikari's Rou Reynolds has been driven to an all-out breakdown by it all. Finding his sporadic panic attacks – described on 'An Ode To Lost Jigsaw Pieces' as "a thundering pain" in his chest "like God's in there having a migraine" – worsening as Brexit, terrorism, austerity, the dismantling of the NHS and Trump's

rule-by-toddler-tweet ramped up, Reynolds honed in on his personal political anguish for Shikari's fifth album. And it's a focus that's helped the record become, potentially, their Biffy Clyro-style crossover classic.

Allowing accessible hooks and rich electro-rock melodies to dominate the techno-screamo-rap bits, tracks like 'The Sights', 'Live Outside' and the robot knees-up of 'The Revolt Of Atoms' become irrepressible emo pop floor-fillers wracked with existential crises – "I'm a little bit petrified

of what's to come, my head's a bit stir-fried", Rou roars, "I wanna live outside of all of this". The epic punk clamour of 'Take My Country Back' reflects the enormity and anger of the Brexit disaster-in-waiting – "Don't wanna take my country back / I wanna take my country forward... We've really gone and f\*\*ked it this time" – but there's more space and sophistication to 'The Spark' than we've seen from Shikari before. Take the sumptuous, Folsian afro-haze of 'Shinrin-yoku' or the antique piano crackles of 'Airfield', tracks that build to bombastic finales so Biffy that we defy you to listen to them in a shirt. Opening with 'The Spark' and closing with 'The Embers', this is Rou's tempestuous tribute to a world on fire. Enter, Arena Shikari. **Mark Beaumont**

## FOR FANS OF



BIFFY CLYRD



PROPHETS OF RAGE



# 10 REASONS YOU SHOULD APPLY FOR SALFORD UNI

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## 1 YOU'RE IN TWO OF BRITAIN'S GREATEST CITIES

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## 2 YOU COULD STUDY IN THE UK'S BIGGEST MEDIA HUB

Interested in a career in the media? The University of Salford's campus is part of a state-of-the-art media hub that's home to over 80 creative and digital organisations, meaning you'll be studying toe-to-toe with the BBC, ITV and many more.

## 3 YOU MIGHT FIND THE NEXT BIG THING PLAYING ON YOUR DOORSTEP

From Salford's own Joy Division and Happy Mondays to The Smiths, Oasis and The 1975, Manchester and Salford's music scene has always been a key creative hub. Now home to everything from killer pop bands like Pale Waves to Bugzy Malone and the most exciting grime scene outside of the capital, it's still a crucible for amazing talent.

## 4 YOU'RE RIGHT IN THE THICK OF IT

Unlike some universities on self-contained campuses out in the sticks, Salford has the best of both worlds – a campus that's just a 20-minute walk from Manchester city centre and its endless entertainments.

## 5 YOU'RE PREPARED FOR WORKING LIFE

The University of Salford builds strong relationships with businesses to create courses that enable their graduates to take on the challenges of today's working world.



## 6 THE ARTS FACILITIES WILL WOW YOU

The latest addition to the campus, New Adelphi, is home to the School of Arts and Media and has a 350-capacity theatre, two TV studios, rehearsal studios, six industry-standard recording studios, 12 amplified performance studios, 14 instrumental tuition rooms, a live room and a suite of performance spaces. Oh, and there's a roof terrace too.

## 7 YOUR LECTURER MIGHT BE HIM OR HER OFF THE TELLY

Guest lecturers at the University of Salford have included former student and *Phoenix Nights* creator Peter Kay, a Doctor of Arts who's shared his wisdom with students on the Comedy Writing and Performance course, and Smiths guitarist Johnny Marr, who was a visiting professor of music.

## 8 YOU CAN GET FIT WHILE YOU STUDY

Sports fans are well served in Salford. As well as its two world-famous football teams, Manchester is home to the Velodrome (where the British cycling team trains), and you can stay fit – or get fit – at the University's highly commended Sports Centre, too.

## 9 YOU COULD GET A DEGREE IN TWO YEARS

The University of Salford offers accelerated degrees for its Built Environment courses, meaning you can gain a full degree in just two years of study – and save around £9,000 in the process.

## 10 THE REST OF THE COUNTRY IS ON YOUR DOORSTEP

Just two hours away from London and just over three hours from Glasgow, Salford's ideally located for students from across the UK – for those times when you just have to escape back home for Sunday lunch.



University of  
**Salford**  
MANCHESTER

# Under THE RADAR

YOU HEARD IT HERE FIRST

## Sofi Tukker

**Grammy-nominated duo from New York with tropical dance bangers**

IF EVERYTHING HAD GONE to plan, Sofi Tukker would never have existed. Muscle-bound DJ Tucker Halpern was destined to play pro-basketball, and vocalist Sophie Hawley-Weld had a yoga teaching job lined up in Brazil. Instead, the duo have rubbed shoulders with Grimes, met a pregnant Beyoncé on the Grammys red carpet and last month played to 10,000 people in Mexico. Not bad for a back-up plan.

"It was the turning point," says Tucker of meeting Sophie in 2013 at Brown University, Rhode Island. The previous summer, an illness put an end to his sports career. He decided to make music his life and quickly started DJing at frat parties. Sophie studied conflict resolution, taught yoga and played acoustic nights around Providence, RI. But it wasn't until their chance encounter at a gallery opening that things took off.

"We clicked straight away," recounts Sophie. "At first I was writing the songs and he was producing them. Then it evolved into collaborating and making them from scratch." They moved to New York together and released their first song,

'Drinkee' – the Grammy-nominated alt-dance banger that they "didn't really think about" until it blew up and gave them the chance to take their music global.

Adapted from a poem by Brazilian writer Chacal, 'Drinkee' fuses deep, driving bass with an infectious guitar hook and a Portuguese vocal. It's earned them a legion of fans, as well as celebrity admirers such as Grimes. "Last summer we played a festival in Milan where we were on before her," reveals Tucker. "A year later she sent us a message saying, 'I'm a fan. I like what you're doing. Keep it up!'"

It's advice they've taken, with a new record in the pipeline and a world tour booked. "Even on our days off we go into the studio," says Sophie. "We want to do this for the rest of our lives." Luckily for them, that looks increasingly likely.

**Alex Flood**

Sofi Tukker:  
Sophie Hawley-Weld  
and Tucker Halpern

PHOTOS: TOMA KOSTYGINA, EWMA VIOLA LILJA

## STRANGE & TRUE Best track FOR FANS OF DETAILS

Their name is a part-homage to popular 1920s entertainer Sophie Tucker – also known as 'The Last Of The Red Hot Mamas'.

**'BEST FRIEND'**  
A banging tropical house hit that soundtracked the new iPhone X advert.

CLEAN BANDIT



DISCLOSURE



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- 13.03.18 Manchester O, Apollo
- 15.03.18 Glasgow O, Academy

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# live

THIS WEEK'S BEST TICKETS AND GIGS

## Radioactive

**Imagine Dragons are touring the UK next year and it's gonna be huge**

BACK IN JUNE, WHEN *NME* caught up with Las Vegas synth-rockers Imagine Dragons on the release of their "much more colourful" third album 'Evolve', frontman Dan Reynolds told us that fans can now look forward to "a very passionate show that's a little eccentric: we

try to bring a piece of Vegas with us everywhere we go."

Exactly what that means for their 2018 tour you'll have to wait and see, but expect them to ditch the 'Smoke And Mirrors' of album two in favour of a bigger, more bombastic stage show as they tour UK arenas, armed with an arsenal of hit singles like 'Thunder', 'Believer' and, of course, 'Radioactive'.

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NOW

### IMAGINE DRAGONS

Rockers with feelings

#### FEBRUARY 2018

Sat 24 Genting Arena,  
Birmingham

Wed 28 The O2, London

#### MARCH 2018

Sat 3 Arena, Manchester

Sun 4 SSE Hydro,  
Glasgow

**TICKETS:** £42.50-£55





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NOW**



**PIXX**  
Synthy oracle

**OCTOBER**

**Mon 30** Green Door  
Store, Brighton

**Tue 31** Bodega Social  
Club, Nottingham

**NOVEMBER**

**Wed 1** Soup Kitchen,  
Manchester

**Thu 2** Crofters  
Rights, Bristol

**TELL ME MORE:** Brit  
School graduate Hannah  
Rodgers released her  
walloping debut 'The Age  
Of Anxiety' in June.

**TICKETS:** £7.15-£12.65



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Grungy indie stormers

**SEPTEMBER**

**Thu 28** NME HQ, London

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**SOULWAX**  
Electronica gurus

**DECEMBER**  
Fri 15 Roundhouse, London  
Sun 17 Academy, Manchester

**TELL ME MORE:** Touring the banging 'From Deewee', the Belgians' live band includes three awesome drummers and a load of mesmerising lights.  
**TICKETS:** £22-£24.75

**RAT BOY**  
Indie-hop tyke

**JANUARY 2018**  
Wed 31 Barrowland, Glasgow  
**FEBRUARY 2018**  
Fri 2 The Limelight, Belfast  
Mon 5 Tramshed, Cardiff  
Tue 6 O2 Academy, Leicester  
Thu 8 O2 Academy, Newcastle  
Sat 10 O2 Academy Brixton, London

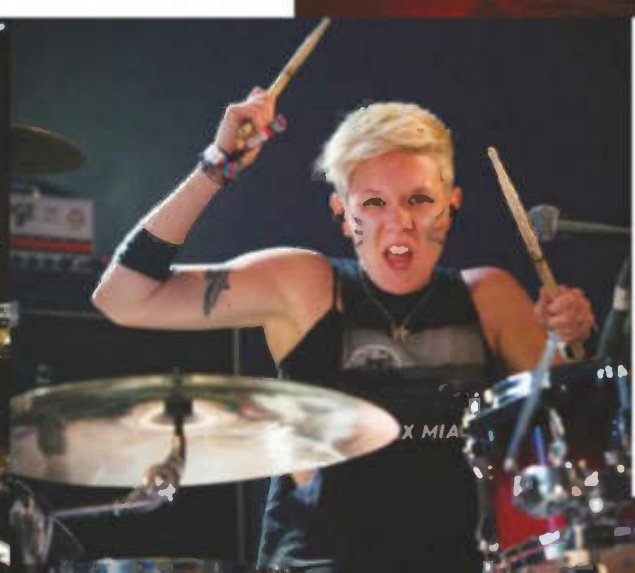
**TELL ME MORE:** Jordan Cardy collaborated with Damon Albarn on his recent debut 'SCUM'.  
**TICKETS:** £17-£20.62



**HONEYBLOOD**  
Guitar-shredding duo

**DECEMBER**  
Mon 18 Thekla, Bristol  
Tue 19 Bodega, Nottingham  
Wed 20 Gorilla, Manchester  
Fri 22 O2 ABC, Glasgow

**TELL ME MORE:** These two are celebrating one year of their second album 'Babes Never Die'.  
**TICKETS:** £22-£24.75



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FRI 23 FEB	LEEDS FIRST DIRECT ARENA
SAT 24 FEB	NEWCASTLE METRO RADIO ARENA
SUN 25 FEB	GLASGOW THE SSE HYDRO
TUE 27 FEB	NOTTINGHAM MOTORPOINT ARENA
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4 Feb	BOURNEMOUTH Pavilion
9 Feb	HARROGATE International Centre
11 Feb	LIVERPOOL Philharmonic Hall
16 Feb	YORK Barbican
17 Feb	NOTTINGHAM Royal Concert Hall
22 Feb	BRISTOL Colston Hall
23 Feb	LEICESTER De Montfort Hall
24 Feb	LONDON Palladium
1 Mar	MANCHESTER Bridgewater Hall
2 Mar	GATESHEAD The Sage
8 Mar	BASINGSTOKE The Anvil
10 Mar	OXFORD New Theatre
11 Mar	SOUTHEND Cliffs Pavilion
16 Mar	PRESTON Guild Hall
17 Mar	SHEFFIELD City Hall
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22 Mar	GUILDFORD GLive
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Tue 20	BIRMINGHAM Symphony Hall
Wed 21	BRIGHTON Centre
Fri 23	LIVERPOOL Philharmonic Hall
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THU 8	London Union Chapel
SAT 10	Guildford GLive
MON 12	Liverpool O2 Academy
TUE 13	Glasgow O2 Academy
THU 15	Edinburgh Queen's Hall
FRI 16	Manchester RNCM

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SUN 22 OCT	MANCHESTER Opera House
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Tue 26 Omeara, London

## ANTEROS

Mon 25 Komedia, Brighton

Tue 26 Bodega, Nottingham

Wed 27 Oporto, Leeds

## ASTROID BOYS

Wed 27 Clwb Ifor Bach, Cardiff

## BABY STRANGE

Sat 23 Headrow House, Leeds

## THE BIG MOON

Sat 23 Central Library, Coventry

Sun 24 Portland Arms, Cambridge

Mon 25 The Plug, Sheffield

## THE BLACK ANGELS

Fri 22 O2 Forum, London

Mon 25 SWG3, Glasgow

Tue 26 O2 Institute, Birmingham

Wed 27 Trinity, Bristol

## BO NINGEN

Fri 22 Esquires, Bedford

Sat 23 Dryden Street

Social, Leicester

Sun 24 Broadcast, Glasgow

## BON IVER

Mon 25 Winter Gardens, Blackpool

Wed 27 Playhouse Theatre, Edinburgh

## ESTRONS

Wed 27 Boilerroom, Guildford

## FLYTE

Mon 25 Portland Arms, Cambridge

Tue 26 Waterfront, Norwich

Wed 27 Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton

## JAWS

Fri 22 Red Gallery, London

## THE JESUS & MARY CHAIN

Sat 23 O2 ABC, Glasgow

Sun 24 Empire, Middlesbrough

Mon 25 University Union, Sheffield

Wed 27 Roadmender, Northampton

## KING NO-ONE

Fri 22 Gorilla, Manchester

Sat 23 The Welly Club, Hull

Sun 24 Rescue Rooms, Nottingham

Wed 27 The Bullingdon, Oxford

## LCD SOUND-SYSTEM

Fri 22 & Sat 23 Alexandra Palace, London

## LORDE

Tue 26 O2 Apollo, Manchester

Wed 27 Alexandra Palace, London

## THE NATIONAL

Fri 22 & Sat 23 O2 Apollo, Manchester

Mon 25, Tue 26 & Wed 27 Eventim Apollo, London

## NICK CAVE & THE BAD SEEDS

Sun 24 The BIC, Bournemouth

Mon 25 Arena, Manchester

Wed 27 SSE Hydro, Glasgow

## NOT3S

Wed 27 The Wardrobe, Leeds

## OMNI

Sat 23 Patterns, Brighton

## PORTUGAL. THE MAN

Tue 26 Gorilla, Manchester

Wed 27 Heaven, London

## RAE MORRIS

Sun 24 Arts Centre, Norwich

Mon 25 Contemporary, Nottingham

Tue 26 Arts Centre, Salisbury

Wed 27 Belgrave Music Hall, Leeds

## REDFACES

Fri 22 Ku Bar, Stockton-on-Tees

Sat 23 Church, Leeds

## SACRED PAWS

Fri 22 Transport Club, Cardiff

## SALUTE

Wed 27 Red Gallery, London

## THE SHERLOCKS

Fri 22 Heaven, London

Sat 23 O2 Academy, Sheffield

## SIGUR RÓS

Fri 22 Eventim Apollo, London

Sun 24 & Mon 25 SECC, Glasgow

## SLEAFORD MODS

Fri 22 O2 Academy Brixton, London

## SONGHYOY BLUES

Sun 24 Tramshed, Cardiff

## SUNDARA KARMA

Wed 27 Tramshed, Cardiff

## TOM GRENNAN

Tue 26 Rescue Rooms, Nottingham

Wed 27 KOKO, London

## TOUTS

Wed 27 Moles, Bath

# SOUNDTRACK OF MY LIFE

## Pedro Pascal

**Narcos star and victim of the goriest ever *Game Of Thrones* death**

### THE FIRST CONCERT I WENT TO

**THE POLICE**

"That was in Austin, Texas, where I spent my childhood. Iggy Pop opened for them. I was only five, but I remember quite a bit of it. They arrived by helicopter. My parents took us to a lot of concerts and we started asking for tickets for birthdays. My sister asked to go to Madonna's 'Like A Virgin' tour. I went too. I loved it!"

### THE SONG I WANT PLAYED AT MY FUNERAL

**PRINCE**

*Purple Rain*

"Prince is the f\*\*king greatest. I was in London when I found out that he had died. I was in a hotel and I had already ordered room service. Someone came to the door and I was crying. They asked if I was OK, so I told them the truth and then they started crying too. We hugged. It was a moment."



PRINCE

### THE FIRST ALBUM I BOUGHT

**PAUL SIMON**

*Graceland*

"I'd asked for things like the *Footloose* soundtrack and Michael Jackson's 'Thriller' for my birthdays, but I remember walking what felt like miles to this cassette shop called The Warehouse to buy Paul Simon's 'Graceland', U2's 'Joshua Tree' and a Roberta Flack album. I had pretty good taste. I have s\*\*t taste now."

### THE SONG I CAN NO LONGER LISTEN TO

**PHARRELL WILLIAMS**

*Happy*

"I can't hear that song anymore. I'm not happy, and I don't want to be told to be happy."

### THE SONG I CAN'T GET OUT OF MY HEAD

**PRINCESS NOKIA**

*Tomboy*

"I'm not sure it's appropriate. She's brilliant, and she's completely empowered by it. She sings, 'My little t\*\*ties / My fat belly'. That keeps going around my head. I feel like right now I have little t\*\*ties and a fat belly. It works for empowered women and for out-of-shape men."

### THE SONG I WOULD DO AT KARAOKE

**RITCHIE VALENS**

*La Bamba*

"I hate karaoke. I don't want to sing [it] and I don't want to listen to people sing. I like these songs and I don't want to hear you sing them. The only song that I could probably sing and get away with is 'La Bamba'. The song I wish I could sing well is 'Dreams' by Fleetwood Mac."

### THE SONG THAT MAKES ME WANT TO DANCE

**TECHNOTRONIC**

*Move This*

"When I moved to New York in '93 we'd go dancing a lot. That's what kept us in shape. There were parties downtown that would move around different venues. Irving Plaza was a great venue where they'd play house music but with live drummers."

### THE FIRST SONG I REMEMBER HEARING

**ANITA WARD**

*Ring My Bell*

"I think I heard it on the radio, and at four years old I was singing along, 'You can ring my bell'. My parents were Chilean immigrants and they were super into music."



BILLY IDOL

### THE FIRST SONG I FELL IN LOVE WITH

**BILLY IDOL**

*White Wedding*

"I remember really cranking it in the house. I would try to curl my lip like him. I pretended that he was my older brother, the bad-boy brother who would come and break me out of the house."

**Narcos series three is on Netflix now**

GO TO NME.COM FOR MORE SOUNDTRACKS



The wisdom of the **NME** archives

**THIS WEEK**  
**MADONNA**

*Queen of pop*  
24 September, 1992

"Girls have balls, they're just a little bit higher up."

