

**NEWS:** UK retailers are preparing for business as **THE EURO** finally becomes reality  
Euroland 4

**CHARTS:** All the **YEAR-END CHARTS** for singles, albums, compilations and the top airplay tracks  
1998's top tunes 8

**DOOLEY:** Having topped Capital Radio's listeners poll **GEORGE MICHAEL** meets the station's DJ **FX**  
Dooley 31

**YEAR-END CHARTS ISSUE**

FOR EVERYONE IN THE BUSINESS OF MUSIC

16 JANUARY 1999 £3.50

# musicweek

## Robbie leads Brits nominations

by Paul Williams  
Robbie Williams is set to dominate the shortlist for this year's Brit Awards being unveiled in London tonight (Monday) with a record tally of six nominations.  
The EMJ/Chrysalis artist, who has been confirmed to play at the Docklands event next month for a second successive year, has two songs nominated in both the best single and best video category, as well as nominations for best album and best male. Oasis previously held the record for most nominations with five at the 1996 event.  
This year, Williams is leading a

chasing pack which includes Catatonia, Gomez, Manic Street Preachers, Massive Attack and Fatboy Slim with three nominations each. Following with two nominations apiece are George Michael and All Saints. Included in the international category are French group Air.

"It's a pretty cross-the-board list of artists and one we can be proud of," says Brits committee chairman Paul Conroy.

Although full details are not being revealed until the official launch this evening at London's Café De Paris, it is understood that neither the Spice Girls nor



**Robbie: record shortlist haul**  
Boyzone, two of the biggest acts of last year, have received a single nomination.  
One award that will not be given

Johnny Vaughan has been confirmed as the host for the Mastercard-sponsored Brits which are taking place at the London Arena, Docklands, on February 16. Other acts performing live on the night include Steps, who will be joining an all-star lineup to perform an Abba song, and the Manic Street Preachers.

Both Another Level and Lynden David Hall will be performing at the launch event tonight. As soon as the nominations are unveiled they will be put on the internet on a new Brits website ([www.brits.co.uk](http://www.brits.co.uk)).  
One award that will not be given

this year is the **best producer** prize. The Brits committee decided to drop it to reflect the fact that albums now are often made by several teams of producers and not just one individual or team. "The category is well-covered in other areas nowadays and, as far as the show is concerned, it gives us an opportunity to get more acts on," says Conroy.

Last year's award went to The Verve, Chris Potter and Youth for their work on The Verve's Urban Hymns.

Tickets for this year's Brits have sold out, reaching capacity two weeks ahead of last year.

That'll do nicely sir. With around a dozen of Virgin Retail's UK stores geared up for trading in the new Euro, last week the Oxford Street Megastore had a trial run to ensure its sales staff were familiar with the new currency. Pictured right is Virgin assistant Johnny Kotsiofidis taking receipt of a freshly-minted Euro traveller's cheque from customer Gary Bales in exchange for a bunch of CDs including Manic Street Preacher's *This Is My Truth Tell Me Yours*. See story, p4.



## Labels keep up the pace in signing new talent for 1999

The UK's leading labels maintained the pace when it came to artist signings last year, according to Music Week's annual A&R signing survey. However, around a quarter of those acts signed in 1997 and half of those signed in 1996 have parted company with their label.

Although some acts have split up or were signed to one-album deals, many have been dropped in the on-going turnover of signings. Those no longer with the label they signed to in 1996 or

1997 are understood to include Belinda Carlisle, Robert Miles, Rialto, My Life Story, Code Red, Kenicrew, Danni, Minsgape, Michelle Gayle, North & South and Dario G. Some have since picked up new deals elsewhere.

The hit strike rate of acts signed in 1997 is also down on a year earlier. Only 1.5% of 1997's signings have scored a Top 40 album to date, compared with 13.5% of 1996's signings 12 months before.

● A&R signings, p22

## Kennedy to fly to US for Bronfman summit

Universal Music Group UK chairman John Kennedy was yesterday due to fly to Los Angeles for a meeting with Seagram chief Edgar Bronfman this week to rubber-stamp his restructuring plans for the company's UK operations.

Kennedy will present his plans at a meeting scheduled for tomorrow that will be chaired by Bronfman and attended by senior UMG executives including Doug Morris and Jorgen Larsen.

"I'm hoping to get final approval of my plan while I'm there," says Kennedy. "I just want to get on with [the restructuring] as soon as I get the OK."

If his blueprint is approved, Kennedy hopes to e-mail staff this week with details of the plans.

## Warner takes control at China

Warner Music UK has acquired the 50% of China Records it did not already own, prompting speculation about the future of the label set up by Derek Green in 1994.

The move, which gives Warner acts such as Morcheeba, Rialto and The Levellers, prompted the resignation of China managing director John Benedict and coincided with seven of the company's 15 staff being made redundant. Casualties included A&R director Chris Checkley and director of radio and TV promotions James Blundy.

In 1994 Warner took a 50% stake in China. It acquired the remainder for an undisclosed amount by exercising an option which came up on December 31 last year.

Precisely how the label will be integrated into Warner UK



**Rialto: at the China signing**

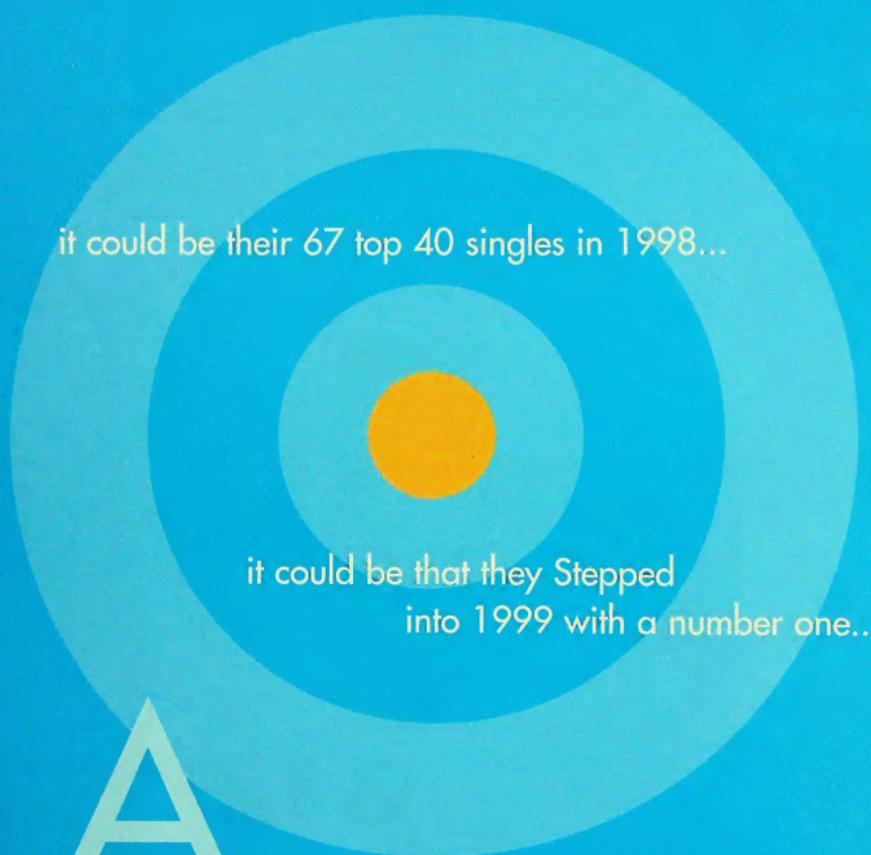
remains unclear. That decision will be taken by newly-appointed chairman Nick Phillips, who starts his job today and to whom Green will report. Green will continue as acting chairman until a new structure is confirmed.

The sale has an ironic twist for Rialto, who signed to China last summer following a decision by Rob Dickens, then chairman of Warner UK, to drop them from East West.

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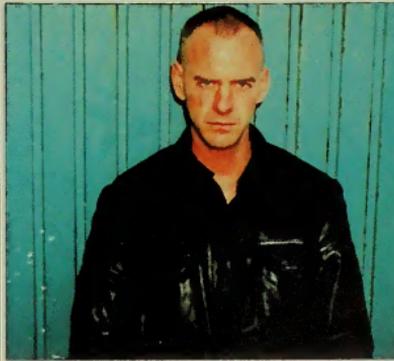
## Semence returns to distribution business

Henry Semence is returning with a new distribution outfit only six months after the failure of his The Total Record Company.

Semence co-founded Total nearly a decade ago only to watch it fall to a voluntary winding-up order in May. He is setting up Corwell from Kent offices, and has negotiated distribution through Pinnacle.

Semence says Corwell will focus on distribution, sales and marketing, adding that one of the lessons he learned from Total was not to over-extend the business into areas such as A&R. "We will focus on the core business," he says.

The company has signed deals to distribute five labels, including Flair, Witness, Pure Silk and Five Trees, and is also advising former Total client All Around The World.



Fatboy Slim was yesterday (Sunday) trying to end Clark's one-week reign at number one and give the Siskit label its first chart-topping single. Praise You was comfortably ahead of Heartbeat/Tragedy by the end of business last Thursday and looked on course to give Norman Cook his third number one single as an artist following Caravan of Love with The Housemartins in 1986 and Dub Be Good To Me with Beats International four years later. Darnlan Harris, who founded Siskit in March 1995, says Praise You's success is a great boost for his label's profile. "We've been lucky we've got someone like Norman," he says. "He's created in the past some of the biggest hits and created this new pop, if you like, whether it's Brimful of Asha, the Wildchild mixes or Rockafeller Skank."

## newsfile

**POINT BYTES TRING ASSETS**  
CD manufacturing group Point Entertainment has purchased some of the assets of budget specialist Tring International, which collapsed into receivership last November. Point finance director Nick Somers says the group has bought the "rump" of Tring's assets from receivers Smith & Williamson.

**TOWER LAUNCHES SECOND SALE**  
Tower is pressing ahead with a second New Year sale after some stores reported beating last year's daily sales records by up to 30% during its first January 1-3 promotion. A second sale starting on January 15 will play on the 1999 theme with an offer of four albums for £19.99.

**LEVENDIS TAKES NEW ARISTA ROLE**  
Former Arista Records UK marketing director George Levensdis has been appointed as Arista's vice president international based in New York. In his new job Levensdis, who has been managing director of BMG Greece since 1997, will oversee the artist development and marketing activities for Arista artists internationally.

**EMAP FIRES UP HEAT**  
Emap Metro's new weekly music, film and entertainment magazine, codenamed Project J during its research and pilot stage, will be launched as Heat on February 2. As previously reported in MW, Martin Aston has joined editor Mark Pitts and editor-in-chief Dave Hespworth as music editor of the glossy aimed at 18- to 30-year-old men and women.

**MW AWARDS DEADLINE APPROACHES**  
Deadlines for the MW Awards are fast approaching with entries for the PR award due in by this Friday (January 15). The cut-off for applications for the marketing campaign categories is January 21. Tickets, priced £175, are now available for the event, which will be held on March 4. For details contact Anne Jones on 0171-940 8570.

# How to offer European solution to online distribution problem

by Tracey Snell

The major UK record companies are in negotiations to conduct trials of online music distribution with a company that has appointed former BMG chairman John Preston as a non-executive director.

Mode (Music on Demand) International has been staging presentations for all the UK majors about its delivery system. Encompassing technologies such as encryption, watermarking and CD-quality compression, it aims to provide an end-to-end solution for distributing music electronically on a European-wide or territorial basis.

"One senior record company executive who has seen Mode says, 'It is the first time anyone has come seriously to us to talk about a solution that works.'"

Mode, which is registered in Holland and will be officially launched at Midem later this month, has evolved from an EU-funded project involving telecom, technology and music organisations including Spanish collection society Sgae. Trials have already been conducted in Scandinavia, mainly with content provided by independent labels.

Preston joined as a non-executive director in November and has been actively involved in the UK record company presentations.

"There is no question that there is going to be a huge market operating online," he says. "Mode has all the issues either nailed down or under observation and being worked on."

Iain Clark, Mode's president and



Preston: promoting Mode project

ceo, says, "Mode is a service provider and not simply a technology provider. We feel that is a significant differentiating factor. Mode is seeking to act as a carrier and to support record companies as they move towards online distribution.

We are not seeking to acquire rights."

Mode's launch comes as the US majors prepare to embark on trials of IBM's Madison project. It also follows the announcement last month of the PIP-backed SDMI project which is seeking to set global specifications for secure digital distribution.

"We welcome such initiatives," says Clark. "The majors have been somewhat slow to react to the challenges presented by online distribution."

Lucent Technologies, one of Mode's partners, is also a member of SDMI. "We will be looking very closely at the first [SDMI] recommendations. One of our concerns is that there are challenges particular to Europe," says Clark.

## Fiddler heads for clash with Leeds V99 festival

The Mean Fiddler was last week granted a licence to stage a festival at the end of August – just a week after V99 is expected to take place in the city – as it lost its sponsor of the Fleadh Irish music event.

The Mean Fiddler has been granted a five-year licence for the Leeds Festival venue Temple Newsam, where it will stage a parallel Reading Festival. Called Leeds 99, the three-day event will run between August 28-30, a day later than the Reading Festival (August 27-29). The two events will feature the same acts.

Its launch raises a question over the future of the Leeds leg of V99, which for the past two years has taken place at Temple Newsam a week before Reading. V99 organisers Metropolis and S&M say they are confident that V99 will go ahead in the north, but were unable to confirm a date or venue. An announcement is expected in February.

Meanwhile, Guinness has withdrawn sponsorship of the annual Fleadh event in London after three



Reading Festival's heading north years. Guinness senior brand manager Nick Robinson says, "We want to concentrate all our efforts on [sponsoring] the Rugby World Cup."

Mean Fiddler festival director Melvin Benn claims the deal was denied by mutual agreement. "They were not putting the marketing effort into Fleadh. We are not at all disappointed and are looking elsewhere [for sponsorship]," he says.

Benn confirms that the Phoenix Festival will return to Marston, Stratford-upon-Avon this July after being cancelled last year due to poor ticket sales. However, it will be a two- or three-day event rather than the usual four days.

## Frykberg steps up for London marketing job

London Records is promoting head of International Nina Frykberg to take over the marketing director's chair with a mission to break the label's young hopefuls Gay Dae.

Sydney-born Frykberg, 32, takes over the role vacated by managing director Laurie Cokell, who left marketing to become general manager in 1996 before his rise to London managing director. Frykberg will report directly to Cokell, adding production, press and sales to her marketing remit.

She says one of the attractions of the job is the wide variety of music at London. "Sometimes you can end up doing it by numbers, which isn't good for you or the artist," she says. In addition to Gay Dae, Frykberg says she will be concentrating on the whole London roster with new releases expected soon from Echo And The Bunnymen and Orbital.

The future home of London remained unclear at press time. It is understood the label is still most likely to seal a partnership with Warner Music, although no deal has been concluded.

DON'T IGNORE THE EURO

At first I thought it was a gimmick when I saw a French shop displaying prices in Francs and Euros on New Year's Day. After all, I suspect like most Brits, I have remained oblivious to the inexorable march of the single European currency.

But now is the time for the rude awakening. Virgin may be one of the few UK music retailers geared up to accept Euros at the moment, but companies across the board will start to feel the effects before long. For UK exporters the pound's relatively weak performance against the new currency was an immediate sign of good things to come, but before long everyone will be feeling the effects more directly.

As ever, retailers are likely to be in the front line. Of course it is our continental European cousins who will feel the pinch first as prices start to equalise – and equalise downwards. But it cannot be too long before the UK is forced to move in the same direction. Everyone must be prepared to act accordingly before that happens.

At MW this means that we will compile pan-European surveys when we compare UK High Street prices every quarter. This is one European trend no one can afford to ignore.



BMG Conifer opts to fold Classics imprint

BMG Conifer is dropping its Conifer Classics imprint and concentrating on its three main international labels.

The company's three UK signed artists – the platinum-selling soprano Lesley Garrett – conductor Daniele Gatti and Grandphone award-winning conductor Nicholas McGaragan – will be transferred to the labels RCA Victor, RCA Red Seal and Deutsche Harmonia Mundl respectively. Existing recordings by these artists will be re-branded.

UK director Richard Dinnage says the UK will continue to be an A&R source. "This will enable us to focus on our artists and now that we're fully consolidated with BMG on an international basis, there is no need for a separate label identity," he says. BMG acquired Conifer Records in autumn 1995.

Dinnage also reveals plans to expand BMG's CD-i business, whose UK-signed releases include The Full Monty and Brassed Off.

Natalie eyes Grammy treble

Natalie Imbruglia leads the list of British and UK-signed artists nominated for the 41st Grammy Awards.

The RCA artist scored three nominations for best new artist, pop album and female pop vocal performance on her debut single Tom. Virgin and Mushroom also received multiple nominations for the awards, which take place at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles on February 24.

Mushroom's Garbage have been nominated for the album of the year award and also for rock album of the year with Version 2.0, which will be up against contenders including Madonna's Ray of Light, which earned the Kuznetsov award for first album of the year nomination.

Virgin signings The Verve have been nominated twice for group rock vocal performance and best rock song with Bitter Sweet Symphony. Parlophone's Radiohead were nominated for best alternative performance for a



Imbruglia: Grammy glory beckons  
Second year in a row, this time with *Arbog/How Am I Driving*. Island's PJ Harvey is also competing in that category with *Is This Desire?*

Other UK nominees include Jimmy Page & Robert Plant (hard rock), Propellerheads (rock instrumental), Sting (male pop), Eric Clapton (male pop), Billy Bragg (folk) and Boy George (dance).

The number of UK and UK-signed acts nominated in non-classical categories dropped dramatically this year to 14 from 30 last year and 23 and 25 the previous two years respectively.

The annual signings survey published in this issue contains good and bad news. The number of signings shows that despite all the doom and gloom, labels have certainly not stopped chasing acts. But the low hit rate of those acts signed during 1997 is surely depressing. Either it underlines just how much tougher it is to get records away – or how many acts were signed for the wrong reasons.

The question is whether the percentage for 1998's signings will be any higher in a year's time. My suspicion is that all the doom and gloom of recent months means realism and focus will not only be buzz words but will actually guide corporate decisions. Let us hope so. *Ajax Scott*

PAUL'S QUIRKS

FESTIVE SUCCESS, BUT AT A PRICE

Compared with some other retail sectors, the music industry appears to have had a reasonably successful Christmas period. The product was certainly there and the collective spend on TV advertising must have set a new industry record. Yet, until the final week before Christmas, you could sense that there was still an underlying reluctance by some customers to buy the albums they obviously wanted. Price appeared to be the biggest factor with Top 40 chart albums and confusion reigned as ever in the compilation market. Consumers these days are more aware and have much more choice, often comparing prices in specialist music stores with supermarkets, mail order outlets or the internet before deciding where to spend their hard-earned money. As a consumer myself I don't blame them, but even with magazines and TV programmes encouraging people to shop around and drive a hard bargain we shouldn't have to start bartering with customers to sell a competitively-priced Top 10 album or single.

Maybe some advertising this year dwelt too much on the £12.99 price message, or perhaps we're our own worst enemy by promoting high-price product at £9.99 and £10.99 during the year and then expecting customers to buy it at full-price just a few weeks later.

Like most retailers we started a sale straight after Christmas. We travelled through all our stock and reduced anything that hadn't moved for a while and then took a long, hard look at all the new acts we'd supported and stocked in 1998. Half of them hadn't sold a copy and they ended up in the sale at less than cost price, but we're not despondent – that means that the other half did sell and some of them sold through in quantity.

So we'll continue to support new acts in 1999 and despite the fact that we know half of them won't sell a copy, at least we will have given them a chance, which is more than you can say for many other music outlets whose sale racks are already full of last year's top titles with hardly a new act in sight.

Paul Quirk's column is a personal view

by Tracey Snell  
A week into the life of the Euro, the UK music industry is starting to get to grips with trading in the single European currency.

From retailers to import and export businesses, UK companies say that during the past 12 months they have put systems in place that will enable them to handle Euro transactions. For example, Virgin Retail says around 12 of its large city stores can currently accept Euro travellers cheques. "We're pretty well geared up," says the chain's financial controller Brian Walker.

Like Virgin, HMV set up an internal Euro steering group nine months ago. Although it is not currently accepting Euros in the UK, HMV Europe finance director John Clark does not rule it out in the future. "Apart from our airport stores, we don't, as a rule, accept foreign currency. It is not a major issue at the moment although maybe it is something we'd want to consider, alongside other currencies, if there is demand," he says.

The Euro was launched on January 1 as an electronic currency by 11 countries including France, Germany and Ireland. Euro notes and coins are expected to be introduced in 2001.

Despite the industry's readiness



Walker, geared up for the Euro

for the Euro, however, none of those companies contacted by MW last week had yet traded in the currency or adopted a dual pricing strategy.

Export wholesaler Caroline International says just 2% of its European customers have expressed an interest in being invoiced in Euros, although it expects that to increase.

The Euro began trading strongly against the pound during its first week, coming as a relief to exporters whose businesses have suffered from the strength of sterling. Its introduction should bring immediate savings for UK companies by eliminating some foreign exchange costs.

HOW PRICES COMPARE

Average album price Nov '98	Country	£	€
Finland	14.50	10.25	
Britain	13.80	9.76	
France	13.56	9.59	
Ireland	13.47	9.53	
Netherlands	12.87	9.10	
Belgium	12.65	8.95	
Italy	12.16	8.60	
Germany	11.96	8.46	
Luxembourg	11.81	8.35	
Portugal	10.51	7.45	

Source: ECA International. The figures are based on an exchange rate of 1.41 Euros to the pound.

However, any wider implications remain unclear, particularly while the timetable for UK entry remains uncertain. While some industry insiders believe a drop in retail pricing is inevitable now that price differentials across Europe are becoming more obvious to consumers (see box), others say it is far too early to say.

"I suspect there will be a lot of talk about the Euro at Midsun. But for two years it is going to run in conjunction with other European currencies," says Paul Burrows, sales manager at Lago Exports.

Nik Pogorski, Caroline International's sales manager, adds, "Until the UK joins, it is just another currency."

TFI's Mount to fill Blaxill's shoes at SMTV

TFI Friday associate producer Phil Mount has been appointed music producer of SMTV Live and its chart-based CD-UK segment to replace Ric Blaxill following his resignation last month.

Mount has been given a brief to harmonise the music content of both segments of the Saturday morning show, presented by Ant & Dec and MTV's Cat Deeley.

Blaxill, whose last show was broadcast on Boxing Day, had been series producer for 18 shows since CD-UK replaced The Chart



Ant & Dec with MTV's Cat Deeley Show on August 29.

"Ric's brief was to set up CD-UK, which he has done. He left

to concentrate on his other commitments," says an SM-TV Live spokesman.

Former TOTP producer Blaxill, who joined Granada Media Group in a broad music role last March, says he is proud of SMTV's achievements.

"The Boxing Day show peaked at 3m viewers and a 30.8% share. I'm really pleased with that," he says.

Mount will report to Conor McNally, SMTV Live and CD-UK executive producer.

# Festive TV coverage powers sales for Robbie and Celine

by Paul Williams  
Robbie Williams and Celine Dion became the darlings of Christmas music TV schedulers after a series of broadcasts individually featuring the singers brought them a combined audience of more than 9m each and helped to add retail sales.

BBC1's late-night showing of the Williams documentary *Some Mothers...* attracted 3.7m viewers on December 23 with another 2.8m people tuning in to a slightly different version of the programme on Boxing Day morning. He won over a further 2.7m viewers who saw his concert performance at a BBC theatre in London in a Christmas night broadcast.

The exposure helped to spark even healthier sales for his already strong-selling *I've Been Expecting You*, while yesterday (Sunday) a revived *Life Thru A Lens* was challenging to give the EMI/Chrysalis act two simultaneous Top 10 albums.

**Hyperion Records founder and managing director Ted Perry last week celebrated his NBE award in this year's new year honours. "At first, I thought it was a mistake," says Perry. "Then I thought it was ironic. They gave me the honour for music publishing, but I'm not a music publisher, I'm a music lover." Perry is the first industry executive to receive a new year's honour since EMI Europe president and CEO Rupert Perry was awarded a CBE two years ago. Other honours this year included OBEs awarded to David Springfield, Tom Jones, David Essex and opera singer Margaret Anne Marshall, while Scottish accordion player Jimmy Shand received a knighthood. Paul Ayscough, who has worked closely with the music industry in his role at the DTI's communications and information industries department, was made an OBE.**

## CHRISTMAS TV VIEWING FIGURES

<b>These Are Special Times</b> (BBC1, 11.25pm Dec 22)	4.7m	<b>ITV, 1.50pm Dec 25)</b>	6.0m
<b>Some Mothers...</b> (BBC1, 11.20pm Dec 23) (repeat, 11.15pm Dec 26)	3.7m	<b>TOTP</b> (BBC1, 12.50pm Dec 25)	6.0m
<b>Charlotte In Her Own Words</b> (Charlotte Church) (ITV, 1.30pm Dec 24)	2.8m	<b>Robbie Williams One Night</b> (BBC1, 11.45pm Dec 25)	2.7m
<b>This Is Celine Dion</b> (ITV, 10.50pm Dec 24)	4.4m	<b>Best Of Pop Chart Show</b> (BS, 7.30pm Dec 23) (repeat CS, 11am Dec 26)	0.7m
<b>Wembley Live, Spice Girls</b>	3.9m	<b>Christmas In Vienna</b> (BBC2, 11.15pm Dec 26)	1.0m

Virgin Retail's chart product manager Grant Williamson says weekly sales of the first Williams album had more than doubled between the start and the end of December. "I've Been Expecting You is selling consistently well and *Life Thru A Lens* has really picked up," he says.

Dion also experienced a noticeable pickup in sales after a 4.7m people saw the BBC1 broadcast. These Are Special Times on December 22

and 4.4m tuned in to This Is Celine Dion on ITV on Christmas Eve. Her Christmas album, which shared its name with the first show, reached its new peak of 20 in the days after the broadcast, while *Let's Talk About Love* became the chart's highest climber by moving up eight to 32.

Elsewhere, TOTP's second Christmas Day special under Chris Cowey had a better time than his first, when figures halved to 4.2m,

This year 6.0m people watched the 12.50pm BBC1 show, beating ITV's *Spice Girls* Wembley concert by 2.1m on the same day and making it the most-watched music programme over Christmas.

HMV chart rock and pop manager Jonathan Rees believes there was a good range of music on TV over Christmas. "The only thing that was missing this year was Des O'Connor but ran throughout December the year before," he adds.

But Steven Miller, managing director of five-store indie Solid Sounds, says, "There was a lot of it, but when it came around to it there were about five artists, especially with men pop which was an *8+ Winded*, *Steps* and *Spice Girls*."

Meanwhile, the various end-of-year polls across the music and mainstream press helped provoke other sales lifts, with new acts including Mercury Rev and the Bots Band among the biggest beneficiaries.

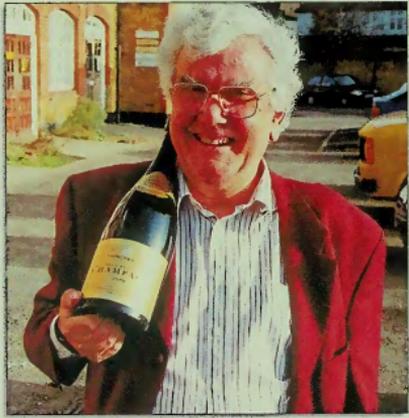
## Kennedy defection talk denied by EMI

EMI Classics has denied reports that its platinum-selling classical artist Nigel Kennedy has defected to Sony Classical.

EMI Classics worldwide president Richard Lyttelton says Kennedy's decision to record a Jimi Hendrix project with Sony Classical is a one-off project and in line with an agreement between the two parties. "He told us he wanted to record this popular music project and rather than stand in the way of his creative ambition we thought we'd let him do this as a one-off," says Lyttelton.

He claims that "disappointing" sales of Kennedy's last pop project, the 1995 release *Kafka*, had influenced the decision to allow him to record with Sony.

A spokeswoman for Sony Classical says, "We jumped at the chance when we heard the recording was available, but we have no plans for any other recordings at this stage."



## NEW APPOINTMENTS AT CASTLE

Castle Music, the catalogue specialist acquired by Rutland Ltd for \$28.5m last July, has appointed Julian Wall as head of its newly-formed international marketing department. Ed Averdeck also arrives as European sales and marketing director. Wall previously held an international role at pan-European airplay tracking company Media Control, while Averdeck moves from BMG, where he was national accounts director.

## NEW HQ FOR CIN

HMV is moving to new premises in central London. From Monday January 18 the company that manages the UK chain will be based at: 3rd floor Century House, 100-102 Oxford Street, London, W1N 9FB. Telephone and fax numbers are: 0171-436 3000 and 0171-436 8000.

## MVC OPENS FIRST OF 20 NEW STORES

MVC opens a new store in Levenshaye on Monday (January 15) as part of a \$4.5m expansion of the music and video chain. The 38,792 sq m site will be one of 20 new stores MVC plans to open this year, making its total of stores to 81.

## COMPOSERS SOCIETIES MERGE

After three years of planning, the British Academy of Songwriters, Composers and Authors, the Composers Guild of Great Britain and the Association of Professional Composers merged operations on January 1 to create the British Academy of Composers and Songwriters. Former Poetry Society director Chris Green becomes chief executive of the new body. Based at Basca's Brook Street offices in central London, it will have a combined membership of around 5,000.

## PEPSI CHART SHOW SWITCHES SLOT

Channel Five's Pepsi Chart show has been given a new time slot from this week. The 30-minute show will now go out on Thursdays at 8pm rather than Wednesdays at either 5pm or 7.30pm, a slot which has put it up against Coronation Street.

## PETER LORIANE

Polycor artist development manager Peter Loriane was formerly editor of *Top Of The Pops* magazine and not *Smash Hits* as stated in *NW* last week.

## MORE PLATINUM FOR GEORGE

George Michael's *Ladies & Gentlemen - Best Of 1981-1993* was certified six-times platinum by the BPI last week with a five-times platinum award going to *Boyz n the Muz* Where We Belong and four-times to Robbie Williams' *I've Been Expecting You*. *Step* One by Steps picked up a triple platinum award with U2's *Best Of 1980-1990* and Charlotte Church's *Miles Of An Angel* awarded double platinum awards. Fatboy Slim's *You've Come A Long Way, Baby*, Duran Duran's *Greatest and R.E.M.'s* *Best Of* were awarded platinum albums. *Cheer's Believe* became a double platinum single last week and *Heartbeat/Tragedy* by Steps went platinum.

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## Imro complaint sparks US copyright challenge

The European Commission is challenging US music copyright laws after upholding a complaint lodged by Irish collection society Imro.

It is estimated European writers and composers will lose at least one year's worth of exemptions in US law extended last year which allow certain shops, restaurants and bars to play radios and televisions without paying performance fees. US authors are estimated to lose \$400m a year under the same law.

Last month the EC upheld a complaint, lodged by the Irish Music Rights Organisation in 1997, regarding the so-called "homestyle" or Alken exemption contained in the US Copyright Act

1976. Legislation passed last year extended this to a much wider range of establishments.

The EC has now initiated a dispute settlement procedure with the World Trade Organisation, which is expected to make a ruling by the autumn.

"The new exemptions really make a total farce and nonsense of copyright administration in the US," says Imro director of services Eamon Shackleton. The society's complaint was backed by European rights umbrella group Gesac, US societies ASCAP and BMI lobbied hard to oppose the legislation.

The US authorities have so far failed to respond officially to the EC's submission to the WTO.

## Howells up for Midem visit

Government minister for competition and consumer affairs Kim Howells has accepted an invitation from industry trade bodies to attend Midem later this month.

Howells has been jointly invited by the BPI, BMR, MCPS and PRS and will be attending on January 25, the second day of the five-day event. Howells is expected to address delegates at a reception. Visit the British At Midem stand and attend the Best Of British showcase. He is also expected to meet key record company and publishing executives.

The BPI had originally invited former trade and industry minister Peter Mandelson, prior to his resignation from the government.

Meanwhile, the BPI has confirmed that its British At Midem stand will this year feature 34 companies, eight of whom will be exhibiting for the first time. They include Apex Entertainment, Faith &



Howells: flying out for Midem

Hope, Somn Recordings and D-Volution. In total 80 UK companies will be exhibiting at the trade show.

BPI international committee chairman Paul Biss says the group will be producing 8,000 copies of its Best Of British double CD, its biggest print run yet. "It has proved so popular that we were always running out by the third day," says Biss.

# Big-selling long-stayers increase stability on eve of millennium

After a year in which more titles took turns at number one than ever before—31 of them, including two which first topped the chart in 1997—it seems a little odd to suggest that the singles chart showed a new stability in 1998. But that's exactly what it did, because most of those chart toppers hung around long enough to sell in large quantities, even if their reigns were on the short side.

While the number of singles to pass through the Top 75 slumped from an all-time high of 1,127 in 1997 to a five-year low of 1,052 this year, a growing amount of hits were shifting in prodigious quantities, with C/I/N figures indicating that 20 of them sold more than half a million copies in the year—an unprecedented number. And outgunning them all to become only the third single by a female soloist to top the annual rankings in the past 40 years was Believe, the remarkable comeback single by Cher.

Following in the illustrious footsteps of Jennifer Rush, who topped the 1985 list with the Power Of Love, and Whitney Houston, who won in 1992 with I Will Always Love You, Believe sold more than 1,519,000 copies and spent seven weeks at number one, giving the 52-year-old the biggest hit of her career by far.

Believe also captured the title claims of Celine Dion, whose Titanic love theme My Heart Will Go On had to settle for runner-up spot, despite selling more than 1,302,000 copies.

These two were joined by seven other overseas stars in the Top 10, leaving the Spice Girls as the UK's solitary representative in the upper echelon with Spicebox, which completed the girls' hold-over of Christmas number ones and sold more than 679,000 copies in December alone, to claim eighth place for the year.

With Viva Forever (1.3M, 622,000 copies sold), Stop (43rd, 332,000), Top Much (100th, 185,000) and residual sales of their earlier hits, the Spice Girls' overall tally of 1,850,000 sales in 1998 was enough to make them the year's top singles attraction for the second time in their career—probably.

There's room for doubt because Boyzone sold a minimum of 1,760,000 singles in the year, based on C/I/N figures. This is certainly an underestimate, however, as the group's biggest hit to date, No Matter What, made a premature exit from the chart after Polydor included a live version of it on one of the CDs for their next single, I Love The Way You Love Me. Chart regulations demand that an existing song be outside the Top 40 before being added to a new release.

It's a sensible rule—it was introduced to stop cynical marketing of the kind which has seen several big hits deleted while still in full flow, only to be added to subsequent singles as a bonus track, allowing these invariably inferior successors to enjoy a higher chart visibility than might otherwise have been the case. But it left Boyzone's label, Polydor, with a problem, however. Their solution was to reduce the dealer price of No Matter What below that required for it to remain in the chart. At the time, it was selling around 10,000 copies a week, and there's no doubt it would have perked up considerably with the arrival of Christmas and its victory as Record of the Year on



Making a huge impact on the charts: Cher, the Spice Girls and Boyzone (clockwise from left)

## HOW 1998'S TOP 100 SINGLES BREAK DOWN

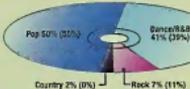
### TOP 100 BY TYPE OF ARTIST



### TOP 100 BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN



### TOP 100 BY GENRE



## NUMBER OF ENTRIES BY CORPORATE GROUP

Group	Top 10	Top 20	Top 40	Top 100
INDIES	2	3	6	21
SONY	4	6	9	20
POLYGRAM	1	2	9	17
VIRGIN	1	3	4	12
SMS	—	—	2	10
WARNER	1	2	3	9
UNIVERSAL	1	2	3	6
EMI	—	—	2	5

Jonathan King's addition to the December TV schedule, which will, no doubt, become an annual fixture. Officially, No Matter What sold 1,074,192 copies before getting the axe, enough for it to take fourth place in the 1998 rankings.

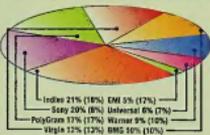
With I Love The Way You Love Me ranked 40th and All That I Need occupying 80th place, Boyzone have placed a minimum of three hits on the year-end Top 100, for each of the past four years. They are a model of consistency, and the most successful boy band since Take That.

They are also Irish, and, as such, are part of the biggest contingency of continental acts in the yearly rankings. Altogether, no fewer than 23 of the Top 100 singles of the year are by acts from the rest of Europe—an unprecedented total, and nearly double the 1997 tally.

Their success has not impacted hometown acts, who filled a satisfactory 49 places in the chart for the second year in a row. Instead, the Europeans seem to be knocking out Americans, who contribute only a quarter of the chart, equalling their lowest tally in the past 20 years.

For the second year in a row, the chart

## TOP 100 BY CORPORATE GROUP



Source: C/I/N. (Last year's figures in brackets)

also plays host to a record number of discs on indie labels. In 1997, 1.8 of the Top 100 were released on indie labels, rising to 21 this year. That's more than any major record company, and justifies the indies' claim to be a seventh force at least equal to the big six (last big five).

## BIGGEST SINGLES 1989-1998

- 1989: RIDE ON TIME Black Box
- 1990: UNCHAINED MELODY The Righteous Brothers
- 1991: (EVERYTHING I DO) I DO FOR YOU Bryan Adams
- 1992: I WILL ALWAYS LOVE YOU Whitney Houston
- 1993: I WOULD DO ANYTHING FOR LOVE (BUT I WON'T DO THAT) Meat Loaf
- 1994: LOVE IS ALL AROUND Wet Wet Wet
- 1995: UNCHAINED MELODY/WHITE FLIPPER OF DOVER RAINBOW & Jeremy
- 1996: KILLING ME SOFTLY The Figles
- 1997: SOMETHING ABOUT THE WAY.../CANDLE IN THE WIND 1997 Elton John
- 1998: BELIEVE Cher

Some of those "big six" were looking distinctly small in 1998, with EMI in particular suffering badly. Having placed 17 records in the 1997 chart, EMI managed to score with just five entries in the 1998 list—

## MILLION-SELLING SINGLES ARTISTS 1998

1 SPICE GIRLS	1,65m
2 CELINE DION	1,70m
3 BOYZONE	1,76m
4 B*WITCHED	1,72m
5 CHER	1,51m
6 STEPS	1,49m
7 ALL SAINTS	1,38m
8 ROBBIE WILLIAMS	1,29m
9 AQUA	1,17m
10 SAVAGE GARDEN	1,15m
11 RUN-DMC vs JASON NEVINS	1,12m
12 FIVE	1,10m

four from Chrysalis (three by Robbie Williams) and one from its dance imprint Positiva. Moving in the opposite direction, Sony captured 20 slots in the Top 100, having had just eight records a year earlier.

The most successful indie label hit of the year was the refurbished Run-DMC Vs. Jason Nevins single It's Live That, which spent six weeks at number one for Profile's Smjz Communications imprint and sold more than 1,092,000, while LeAnn Rimes' power ballad How Do I Live (on Carbu/The Hit Label) enjoyed the longest chart career of any 1998 hit, 34 weeks, and sold in excess of 700,000 copies—more than three times as many as some of the year's number one hits—without rising above number seven. This remarkable feat led to it becoming the sixth biggest hit of the year, and a strong contributor to the chart, which enters the last year of the millennium in rude health.

Aian Jones

The chart covers the 53 weeks up to and including sales on Saturday January 2, 1999 (Music Week chart date week-ending January 9, 1999). Highest position and weeks on chart are for these 53 weeks only.

# BEST SELLERS OF 1998 SINGLES TOP 100

Peak pos. on ch.	Wks. on ch.	Title artist	label (distributor)	Peak pos. on ch.	Wks. on ch.	Title artist	label (distributor)
1	11	<b>BELIEVE</b> Cher	WEA (W)	50	2 10	<b>TURN IT UP/FIRE IT UP</b> Busta Rhymes	Elektra (W)
2	1 20	<b>MY HEART WILL GO ON</b> Celine Dion	Epic (SM)	51	3 8	<b>MIAMI</b> Will Smith	Columbia (SM)
3	1 16	<b>IT'S LIKE THAT</b> Run-DMC, Yo, Jason Nevins	Smile Communications (P)	52	3 12	<b>LA PRIMAVERA</b> Sade	Multiply (W)
4	1 15	<b>NO MATTER WHAT</b> Boyz n the Bay	Polydor (P)	53	4 12	<b>CRUSH</b> Jennifer Lopez	EAR/Edel (P)
5	1 19	<b>C'EST LA VIE</b> B'Witched	Glow Worm/Epic (SM)	54	2 11	<b>OUTSIDE</b> Natalie Imbruglia	Epic (SM)
6	7 34	<b>HOW DO I LIVE</b> Ladysmith Black Mambazo	Curb/The MCA Label (RMGF)	55	1 11	<b>DEEPER UNDERGROUND</b> Jamiroquai	Sony S2 (ISA)
7	1 3	<b>CHOCOLATE SALTY BALLS (PS I LOVE YOU)</b> Cher	Columbia (SM)	56	2 5	<b>HARD KNOCK LIFE (GHETTO ANTHEM)</b> Jays	Northwestside (BMG)
8	1 3	<b>GOODBYE</b> Spice Girls	Virgin (E)	57	1 15	<b>PERFECT DAY</b> Lauryn Hill	Chrysalis (E)
9	2 17	<b>GHETTO SUPASTAR (THAT IS WHAT YOU ARE)</b> Prinz Michael featuring DJ's & Mops	Interscope (BMG)	58	3 9	<b>GETTIN' JIGGY WIT IT</b> The Temptations featuring Maya	Columbia (SM)
10	4 23	<b>TRULY MADLY DEEPLY</b> Savage Garden	Columbia (SM)	59	3 9	<b>IF YOU BUY THIS RECORD YOUR LIFE WILL BE BETTER</b> The Temptations featuring Maya	Pepper (P)
11	2 8	<b>MUSIC SOUNDS BETTER WITH YOU</b> Sade	Virgin (E)	60	3 12	<b>STRANDED</b> Lauryn Hill	Wildcat (W)
12	2 8	<b>HEARTBEAT/TRAGEDY</b> Steps	Ebu/Jive (P)	61	5 11	<b>LIFE IS A FLOWER</b> Ace of Base	London (P)
13	1 13	<b>VIVA FOREVER</b> Spice Girls	Virgin (E)	62	3 7	<b>FM YOUR ANGEL</b> Celine Dion & R. Kelly	Epic (SM)
14	1 13	<b>3 LIONS '98</b> Redford & Slumer & The Lightning Seeds	Epic (SM)	63	7 7	<b>EVERYTHING'S GONNA BE ALRIGHT</b> Sawetobek	RCA (BMG)
15	1 14	<b>DOCTOR JONES</b> Aqua	Universal (BMG)	64	2 10	<b>BAMBOOGIE</b> Barracuda	VC Recordings (E)
16	1 17	<b>NEVER EVER</b> All Saints	London (P)	65	2 3	<b>ESPECIALLY FOR YOU</b> Denise and Johnny	RCA (BMG)
17	4 18	<b>I DON'T WANT TO MISS A THING</b> Jennifer Lopez	Columbia (SM)	66	8 15	<b>LIFE</b> Decees	Sony S2 (SM)
18	2 20	<b>THE BOY IS MINE</b> Brandy & Monica	Atlantic (W)	67	2 7	<b>UNTIL THE TIME IS THROUGH</b> Aqua	RCA (BMG)
19	1 17	<b>FEEL IT</b> The Temptations featuring Maya	Pepper (P)	68	1 10	<b>TURN BACK TIME</b> Aqua	Universal (BMG)
20	1 12	<b>BIRMFUL OF ASHA</b> Cengiztoprak	Wija (P)	69	3 11	<b>SWEETEST THING</b> Iz	Island (P)
21	1 15	<b>ROLLERCOASTER</b> B'Witched	Glow Worm/Epic (SM)	70	1 11	<b>BOOTIE CALL</b> All Saints	London (P)
22	1 13	<b>FROZEN</b> Madonna	Maverick (W)	71	3 12	<b>LET ME ENTERTAIN YOU</b> Robia Williams	Chrysalis (E)
23	2 17	<b>HORNY</b> Mousse T. vs Hot 'n Juicy	AM FM (P)	72	3 11	<b>WHAT CAN I DO (Remix)</b> The Corrs	Atlantic (W)
24	2 12	<b>VINDALOO</b> The Roots	Telstar (W)	73	5 4	<b>END OF THE LINE</b> Jagged	First Avenue/Mercury (P)
25	4 18	<b>ANGELS</b> Robbie Williams	Chrysalis (E)	74	2 10	<b>JUST THE TWO OF US</b> Will Smith	Columbia (SM)
26	4 18	<b>DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY</b> Mylar	MCA Nashville (BMG)	75	2 10	<b>RAY OF LIGHT</b> Madonna	Maverick (W)
27	1 14	<b>UNDER THE BRIDGE/LADY MARMALADE</b> All Saints	London (P)	76	5 5	<b>BIG BIG WORLD</b> Enka	Universal (BMG)
28	1 12	<b>FREAK ME</b> Jennifer Lopez	Northwestside (BMG)	77	1 9	<b>ALL AROUND THE WORLD</b> Dava	Creation (JMWV)
29	1 17	<b>MILLENNIUM</b> Robbie Williams	Chrysalis (E)	78	5 9	<b>CARNAVAL DE PARIS</b> Dixie D	Debut (W)
30	3 16	<b>TO THE MOON AND BACK</b> Savage Garden	Columbia (SM)	79	2 12	<b>EVERYBODY GET UP</b> Dixie D	RCA (BMG)
31	2 11	<b>ONE FOR SORROW</b> Steps	Ebu/Jive (P)	80	1 14	<b>ALL THAT I NEED</b> Boyz n the Bay	Polydor (P)
32	4 15	<b>TOGETHER AGAIN</b> Janet Jackson	Virgin (E)	81	3 9	<b>GONE 'TIL NOVEMBER</b> Wyclef Jean	Columbia (SM)
33	1 4	<b>TO YOU I BELONG</b> B'Witched	Glow Worm/Epic (SM)	82	1 9	<b>I WANT YOU BACK</b> Melanie B feat Missy "Misdemeanor" Elliott	Wyclif (P)
34	3 13	<b>GO THE FEELIN'</b> Fuge	RCA (BMG)	83	3 10	<b>RENEGADE MASTER '98</b> Wyclef Jean	Hi-Life/Polydor (P)
35	5 14	<b>HIGH</b> Lighthouse Family	WVA Card/Polydor (P)	84	8 11	<b>LOOKING FOR LOVE</b> Karen Barclay	Manifesto (P)
36	4 12	<b>FINALLY FOUND</b> Morley	First Avenue/Mercury (P)	85	3 10	<b>WOULD YOU...?</b> Tough And Co.	Duel/2 (SM/WP)
37	2 14	<b>PERFECT 10</b> The Brantley Soulz	GolDisca/Mercury (P)	86	3 7	<b>DOO WOP (THAT THING)</b> Lauryn Hill	RuffHouse/Columbia (SM)
38	2 13	<b>SEX ON THE BEACH</b> T. Sizzle	Control/Edel (P)	87	4 9	<b>KISS THE RAIN</b> Gisela Meyer	Universal (BMG)
39	6 13	<b>SAVE TONIGHT</b> Eagle Eye Cherry	Polydor (P)	88	4 9	<b>WHEN THE LIGHTS GO OUT</b> Fuge	RCA (BMG)
40	2 6	<b>I LOVE THE WAY YOU LOVE ME</b> Boyz n the Bay	Polydor (P)	89	2 10	<b>COME WITH ME</b> Pitf Dasey featuring Jimmy Page	Epic (SM)
41	4 7	<b>UP AND DOWN</b> Wyclef Jean	Posidon (E)	90	4 8	<b>THE BALLAD OF TOM JONES</b> Sade featuring Corrs	Gut (V)
42	1 13	<b>YOU MAKE ME WANNA...</b> Usher	LaFace (BMG)	91	2 10	<b>BIG MISTAKE</b> Natalie Imbruglia	RCA (BMG)
43	2 17	<b>STOP</b> Spice Girls	Virgin (E)	92	8 11	<b>KUNG FU FIGHTING</b> Red One featuring Coolio & Da Brat	All Around The World (W)
44	6 14	<b>LAST THING ON MY MIND</b> Steps	Ebu/Jive (P)	93	3 10	<b>MULDER AND SCULLY</b> Gambino	Bianco Y Negro (SM)
45	3 5	<b>WHEN YOU'RE GONE</b> Prinz Michael featuring Melissa C	ABM/Mercury (P)	94	8 26	<b>TELETUBBIES SAY EH-OH!</b> Teletubbies	BBC Worldwide Music (BMG)
46	1 11	<b>IF YOU TOLERATE THIS YOUR CHILDREN WILL BE NEXT</b> Manic Street Preachers	Epic (SM)	95	6 10	<b>DREAMS</b> The Corrs	Atlantic (W)
47	2 12	<b>MYSTERIOUS TIMES</b> Sade featuring Tim Gossens	Multiply (W)	96	2 12	<b>ALL I HAVE TO GIVE</b> Backstreet Boys	Jive (P)
48	1 12	<b>BECAUSE WE WANT TO</b> B'like	Innocent (E)	97	3 10	<b>SHE WANTS YOU</b> B'like	Innocent (E)
49	1 12	<b>GIRLFRIEND</b> B'like	Innocent (E)	98	4 10	<b>I JUST WANNA BE LOVED</b> Culture Club	Virgin (E)
				99	6 10	<b>THE ROCKAFELLER SKANK</b> Fatboy Slim	Skim (JMWV/P)
				100	3 13	<b>TOO MUCH</b> Spice Girls	Virgin (E)

# Record takes the crown but the scores top five double

Outside of the Anglo-American axis which has dominated the charts for as long as they have existed, there are comparatively few territories with the ability to supply an ongoing stream of popular music heroes. Jamaica does it sporadically, Australia and Canada a little more frequently. French and German acts occasionally break out of their own markets, while Scandinavia, particularly Sweden, has its moments too. But none can compare with the consistent commercial success of the Irish.

From the album chart's early days, when Val Doonican and the Chieftans were prominent, the Irish have been quietly fleecing us of a fortune, with artists like Enya, Clannad, Boyzone, Van Morrison, B\*Witched, James Galway, Sinéad O'Connor, the Cranberries and, most of all, U2 proving popular with UK punters. U2's most famous and venerated album *The Joshua Tree* came close to being the number one album of 1987, but had the misfortune to come up against Michael Jackson's *Bad*, and had to settle for second place in that year's best album list. It was as close as any Irish act has come to lifting the title - until now.

The act to break the mould are The Corrs, the telegenic Irish family act whose trio of hit singles - *Dreams*, *What Can I Do* and *So Young* - lifted their 1997 album *Talk On Corners* from respectable mid-chart anonymity to the number one position on four separate occasions in 1998. Aided by two reissues, the first inserting *Dreams*, the second substituting the hit mix of *What Can I Do* and adding *So Young* (which originally appeared on their previous album *Forgiven Not Forgotten*), *Talk On Corners* had sold just 80,000 copies from its release to the end of 1997, a period of 10 weeks. In the past year it has sold a further 1,676,000 copies, making it a worthy champion.

From an apparently impregnable position it almost lost it, however, as *Ladies & Gentlemen - The Best Of George Michael* made an impressive bid for the title. Number one for the last eight weeks of the year, *Ladies & Gentlemen* sold more than 1,523,000 copies to earn second place. It is George's highest finish yet, beating his solo peak of five (*Older*, 1996) and the Wham! record of four (*Make It Big*, 1984).

*Ladies & Gentlemen* sold twice as many copies as any other artist compilation in 1998, though *The Best Of M People* and Phil Collins' *Hits* also acquitted themselves very well. Although 24 of the Top 100 albums were hits packages, six more than in 1997 and the highest tally since 1994 when there were 32.

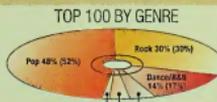
While it requires no particular skill to predict the success of U2, Meat Loaf and Mariah Carey compilations, there is always a surprise success. In 1997 it was *Bread*, and in 1998 it was *LadyMint Black*. *Mambazo*, whose *The Star* & The Wiseman collection sold more than 623,000 copies - more than all their previous albums added together.

The most dramatic success story of the year though has to be that of Robbie Williams, who, like the Spice Girls in 1997 and Gloria Estefan in 1989, placed two albums in the top five. *Life Thru A Lens*



Clockwise from left: The Corrs, Robbie Williams and The Beatles, still one of the biggest selling acts of last year

## HOW 1998'S TOP 100 ALBUMS BREAK DOWN



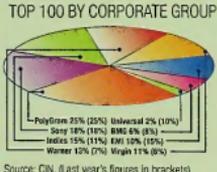
### NUMBER OF ENTRIES BY CORPORATE GROUP

Group	Top 10	Top 20	Top 40	Top 100
POLYGRAM	2	6	10	25
SONY	3	4	12	18
INDIES	-	1	1	15
WARNER	2	3	6	13
VIRGIN	1	2	4	11
EMI	2	2	2	10
BMG	-	2	3	6
UNIVERSAL	-	2	2	2

taking fourth place with 1,241,000 sales and I've Been Expecting You ranking fifth with 1,093,000. With sales of only 120,000 in three months, *Life Thru A Lens* was one of the flops of 1997, but, like The Corrs' *Talk On Corners*, it unleashed a string of hit singles in 1998, and became a formidable chart force.

By the time I've Been Expecting You came out, Robbie had a legion of fans, and it duly gave him his second number one album of the year - a rare feat - and established him as the number one album artist of the year (see table above right) with sales of 2,324,000.

The Verve were unlucky not to top the album rankings in 1997. They led for a long time with *Urban Hymns*, only to slip to second place at the death behind Oasis' *Be Here Now*. They led the year-to-date rankings for much of 1998 too, the winsome charms of their first two major hits *Bittersweet Symphony* and *The Drugs Don't Work* continuing to cast a spell over record buyers throughout the year, though *Urban Hymns* was overshadowed by year's end and had to settle for sixth place. It did, however, achieve the rare feat of selling more than 1m copies two years in



Source: C/I. (Last year's figures in brackets)  
a row - 1,315,000 in 1997 and 1,085,000 in 1998.

The overall composition of the chart is little changed over last year, with UK acts in slight decline, Americans recovering

## BIGGEST ALBUMS 1989-1998

- 1989: TEN GOOD REASONS Jason Donovan
- 1990: ...BUT SERIOUSLY Phil Collins
- 1991: STARS Simply Red
- 1992: STARS Simply Red
- 1993: BAT OUT OF HELL II - BACK INTO HELL Meat Loaf
- 1994: CROSS ROAD - THE BEST OF Bon Jovi
- 1995: ROBBIE & JEROME Robbie & Jerome
- 1996: JAGGED LITTLE PILL Alanis Morissette
- 1997: BE HERE NOW Oasis
- 1998: TALK ON CORNERS The Corrs

modestly from their lowest ebb, pop and rock still solidly leading the genre. Light groups still beating soloists, men still retaining a small lead over women, and PolyGram still winning the corporate battle. Finally, although none of their albums managed to make the Top 100 for the year, The Beatles were once again one of the year's biggest-selling acts, with unit sales in excess of half a million placing them well inside the Top 20. As usual, it was Sgt

## MILLION-SELLING ALBUM ARTISTS 1998

- 1 ROBBIE WILLIAMS 2.32m
- 2 THE CORRS 1.80m
- 3 GEORGE MICHAEL 1.66m
- 4 CELINE DION 1.38m
- 5 BOYZONE 1.33m
- 6 THE VERVE 1.15m
- 7 MADONNA 1.06m
- 8 M PEOPLE 1.05m
- 9 U2 1.02m
- 10 JAMES HORNOR 1.02m
- 11 LIGHTHOUSE FAMILY 1.00m

Based on sales of 100,000 albums  
Pepper's *Lovely Hearts Club Band*, now more than 31 years old, which was not just the biggest-selling Beatles album of the year, but the number one catalogue seller overall. It occupies 112th position for the year, having sold more than 402,000 copies.

Many magazine and book polls have placed The Beatles' albums in differing orders over the years with *Revolver* often coming out on top, but as far as the UK record buyer is concerned, Sgt Pepper is nearly twice as popular as *Revolver*, which is 175th for this year with 59,000 sales. Other Beatles records in the Top 500 are *Abbey Road* (211), *Rubber Soul* (258), *1967-1970* (259), *1962-1966* (262), *Magical Mystery Tour* (301), The Beatles (White Album) (302), *Help!* (360), *A Hard Day's Night* (409), *Let It Be* (420) and *Please Please Me* (431). The Beatles' tally of 12 albums in the Top 500 is unmatched.

Alan Jones  
The chart covers the 53 weeks up to and including sales on Saturday January 2, 1999 (Music Week chart dated week-end January 9, 1999). Highest position and weeks on chart are for these 53 weeks only.

# BEST SELLERS OF 1998

## ALBUMS TOP 100

Peak	Wks on ch.	Title	Label (distributor)	Peak	Wks on ch.	Title	Label (distributor)
1	53	<b>TALK ON CORNERS</b> The Corrs	Atlantic (W)	50	2 11	<b>YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY, BABY</b> Patterson-Chen	Sire (J&M/P)
2	1 8	<b>LADIES &amp; GENTLEMEN - THE BEST OF</b> George Michael	Epic (SM)	51	15 8	<b>GREATEST MOMENTS</b> Culture Club	Virgin (E)
3	1 32	<b>WHERE WE BELONG</b> Boyz n the Banda	PolyGram (P)	52	1 21	<b>THE GOOD WILL OUT</b> Embrace	Hut/Virgin (E)
4	1 53	<b>LIFE THRU A LENS</b> Robbie Williams	Chrysalis (E)	53	17 42	<b>OCEAN DRIVE</b> Lighthouse Family	Wild Card/PolyGram (P)
5	1 10	<b>I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU</b> Robbie Williams	Chrysalis (E)	54	6 11	<b>SULTANS OF SWING - THE VERY BEST OF</b> Dire Straits	Virgin (P)
6	1 53	<b>URBAN HYMNS</b> Verve	Hut/Virgin (E)	55	15 41	<b>GOLD - GREATEST HITS</b> Alba	PolyGram (P)
7	1 64	<b>RAY OF LIGHT</b> Madonna	Maverick (W)	56	7 22	<b>MY WAY - THE BEST OF</b> Frank Sinatra	Reprise (W)
8	1 53	<b>LET'S TALK ABOUT LOVE</b> Celine Dion	Epic (SM)	57	8 29	<b>FRESCO</b> M People	M People/BMG (BMG)
9	2 53	<b>ALL SAINTS</b> All Saints	London (P)	58	1 19	<b>HELLO NASTY</b> The Swirlies Boys	Grand Royal/Parlophone (E)
10	1 50	<b>TITANIC (OST)</b> James Horner	Sony Classical (SM)	59	13 8	<b>GREATEST</b> Duran Duran	EMI (E)
11	2 53	<b>POSTCARDS FROM HEAVEN</b> Lighthouse Family	Wild Card/PolyGram (P)	60	20 9	<b>THESE ARE SPECIAL TIMES</b> Celine Dion	Epic (SM)
12	2 9	<b>THE BEST OF</b> M People	M People/BMG (BMG)	61	3 24	<b>DESIRELESS</b> Faith Evans	PolyGram (P)
13	2 16	<b>STEP ONE</b> Sade	Epic/Jive (P)	62	5 16	<b>LIFE GOES ON</b> Sade	Multiply (W)
14	1 12	<b>QUENCH</b> The Beautiful South	GoDisco/Mercury (P)	63	2 15	<b>THE GLOBE SESSIONS</b> Sheryl Crow	A&M/PolyGram (P)
15	1 13	<b>HITS</b> Pit Crew	Virgin (P)	64	8 24	<b>LIKE YOU DO...BEST OF</b> Lighthouse Family	Epic (SM)
16	2 44	<b>SAVAGE GARDEN</b> Savage Garden	Columbia (SM)	65	15 40	<b>WORD GETS AROUND</b> Stevie Nicks	V2/J&M/P
17	4 17	<b>ONE NIGHT ONLY</b> Sade	PolyGram (P)	66	3 25	<b>TIN PLANET</b> Sade	Dot (P)
18	2 15	<b>THE STAR AND THE WISEMAN - THE BEST OF</b> Lefebvre Black Mamba	PolyGram TV (P)	67	15 31	<b>COME ON OVER</b> Shania Twain	Mercury (P)
19	7 53	<b>LEFT OF THE MIDDLE</b> Nicola Roberts	RCA (BMG)	68	19 28	<b>NEVER S-A-Y NEVER</b> Brandi	Atlantic (W)
20	1 40	<b>INTERNATIONAL VELVET</b> Catalania	Blanco Y Negro (W)	69	18 34	<b>BIG CALM</b> Merchandise	Intochina (P)
21	4 8	<b>THE BEST OF 1980-1990</b> U2	Island (P)	70	6 24	<b>THE BEST OF</b> Whitney	Epic (SM)
22	3 12	<b>B*WITCHED</b> B*Witched	Glow Worm/Epic (SM)	71	3 15	<b>100% COLOMBIAN</b> Pan Luvaf' Criminals	Chrysalis (E)
23	1 28	<b>BLUE</b> Steeple Bull	East West (W)	72	11 32	<b>BRING IT ON</b> Gomez	Hut/Virgin (E)
24	1 16	<b>THIS IS MY TRUTH TELL ME YOURS</b> Manix Street Preachers	Epic (SM)	73	13 32	<b>THE VELVET ROPE</b> Janet Jackson	Virgin (E)
25	1 28	<b>FIVE</b> Five	RCA (BMG)	74	11 19	<b>BACKSTREET'S BACK</b> Backstreet Boys	Jive (P)
26	1 41	<b>THE BEST OF</b> Janet	Fontana (P)	75	1 21	<b>THIS IS HARDCORE</b> Papa	Island (P)
27	2 45	<b>SPICEWORLD</b> Spice Girls	Epic (E)	76	2 11	<b>WHEN WE WERE THE NEW BOYS</b> Rod Stewart	Warner Bros (W)
28	4 8	<b>VOICE OF AN ANGEL</b> Charlotte Church	Sony Classical (SM)	77	25 23	<b>THE VERY BEST OF</b> Sade	PolyGram (P)
29	4 38	<b>WHITE ON BLONDE</b> White	Mercury (P)	78	16 33	<b>THE FAT OF THE LAND</b> The Prodigy	XL Recordings (W)
30	10 7	<b>NOTS</b> Marti Pellow	Columbia (SM)	79	4 24	<b>UNFINISHED MONKEY BUSINESS</b> Lyn Collins	PolyGram (P)
31	3 9	<b>SUPPOSED FORMER INFATUATION JUNKIE</b> Alvino Martin	Maverick (W)	80	6 22	<b>MOON SAFARI</b> As	Virgin (E)
32	8 10	<b>BELIEVE</b> Cher	WEA (W)	81	4 20	<b>MELTING POT</b> The Roots	Beggars Banquet (P)
33	1 9	<b>THE BEST OF 1980-1990 &amp; B-SIDES</b> U2	Island (E)	82	2 14	<b>THE MISEDUCATION OF</b> Lauryn Hill	Ruffhouse/Columbia (SM)
34	11 44	<b>BIG WILLIE STYLE</b> Willie Nelson	Columbia (SM)	83	6 15	<b>PILGRIM</b> Eric Clapton	Duck (W)
35	2 9	<b>THE MASTERPLAN</b> Oasis	Crestion (J&M/W)	84	15 19	<b>THEIR GREATEST HITS</b> Hot Chocolate	EMI (E)
36	6 39	<b>AQUARIUM</b> Aqua	Universal (BMG)	85	11 34	<b>THE BENDS</b> Rufus Wainwright	Parlophone (E)
37	3 13	<b>SONGS FROM ALLY McBEAL</b> Vonda Shepard	Epic (SM)	86	10 18	<b>BACK TO TITANIC</b> James Horner	Sony Classical (SM)
38	10 43	<b>TRAMPOLINE</b> The Miracles	MCA Nashville (BMG)	87	22 8	<b>ANOTHER LEVEL</b> Aashita Level	Merchandise (BMG)
39	6 30	<b>MAVERICK A STRIKE</b> Felix Gray	Epic (SM)	88	13 17	<b>BE HERE NOW</b> Dido	Crestion (J&M/W)
40	1 32	<b>MEZZANINE</b> Morris Brown	Virgin (P)	89	40 27	<b>FORGIVEN, NOT FORGOTTEN</b> The Corrs	Atlantic (W)
41	5 44	<b>OK COMPUTER</b> Radiohead	Parlophone (E)	90	13 20	<b>PAINT THE SKY WITH STARS - THE BEST OF</b> Cery	WEA (W)
42	14 11	<b>MONEY TO B</b> Bibi	Innocent (E)	91	13 22	<b>LENNON LEGEND - THE VERY BEST OF</b> John Lennon	Parlophone (E)
43	1 34	<b>VERSION 2.0</b> Gorillaz	Mushroom (J&M/P)	92	7 17	<b>GREATEST HITS</b> Eminem	First Avenue/EMI (E)
44	13 10	<b>THE MOVIES</b> Michael Ball	PolyGram TV (P)	93	11 22	<b>SITTIN' ON TOP OF THE WORLD</b> LeAnn Rimes	Curb/H&L Labels/Island (P)
45	5 21	<b>TRULY - THE LOVE SONGS</b> Lenny Kravitz	Motown/PolyGram TV (P)	94	5 13	<b>IN MY LIFE</b> George Martin/Yesuga	Echo (P)
46	7 8	<b>MODERN CLASSICS - THE GREATEST HITS</b> Paul Weller	Island (P)	95	27 8	<b>R</b> R. Kelly	Jive (P)
47	1 24	<b>JANE McDONALD</b> Jane McDonald	Focus Music Int (W)	96	34 8	<b>LESLEY GARRETT</b> Lesley Garrett	BBC/SBMG Catalog (BMG)
48	14 9	<b>THE VERY BEST OF</b> Ment 104	Virgin/Sony TV (E)	97	5 15	<b>THE BEST OF - HATFUL OF RAIN</b> Dell Arsen	A&M/Mercury (P)
49	2 10	<b>UP</b> REM	Warner Bros (W)	98	18 21	<b>IT'S MY LIFE - THE ALBUM</b> Sant	Multiply (W)
				99	6 13	<b>DECKSANDRUMSANDROCKANDROLL</b> Propellerheads	Wall of Sound (V)
				100	20 19	<b>THE VERY BEST OF</b> Sling/The Police	A&M/Mercury (P)



# Radio: more in tune with sales

Radio programmers and record buyers were in total agreement in 1998 when it came to the year's most popular act.

Robbie Williams, who sold more albums than anyone else across the 12 months, spread his dominance to the airwaves as Angels became the most-heard radio hit of the year. Spanding 35 weeks in total on the Airplay Top 50, the song reached an overall audience of 1.321m, a comfortable 68m more than the runner-up. Here's Where The Story Ends by Tin Tin Out. It was one of three singles by Williams in the year-end Top 50 as Millennium finished at 12 and Angels' follow-up, Let Me Entertain You, at 14.

Despite topping an end-of-year radio chart for 1998, Angels was among four of the eight biggest airplay hits of the year to have been released the previous year, while Cornershop's Brimful Of Asha (ninth) had its first sales chart run in 1997. Although the earlier a record is released in a year the more weeks it has to build up overall plays, the presence of so many 1997 releases so high in the year-end list is remarkable.

Radio, often accused of staying too long with certain tracks after sales have dropped off, was, initially at least, more than justified in remaining with 1997's Angels, Torn by Natalie Imbruglia (third), the Lighthouse Family's High (seventh) and Never Ever by All Saints (eighth) as all remained big sellers well into 1998, reflecting a year when airplay and sales were closer than in recent years.

The two tracks on last year's biggest-selling single, Elton John's coupling of Candle in the Wind 1997 and Something About The



Most played artists (from left): Robbie Williams, Tin Tin Out and Natalie Imbruglia

Way You Look Tonight, finished just 115th and 121st respectively in that year's overall airplay chart, although still better than Aqua's Barbie Girl, runner-up on the sales chart of the year but ranked an unremarkable 180th on airplay. By contrast, Cher's Believe, 1998's biggest-selling single, finished a credible 17th in the year's airplay chart and would no doubt have finished significantly higher had it had more weeks in the year to accumulate plays. With a sixweek run, it spent longer at the top of the Airplay chart than any other record bar Tin Tin Out's seven-week stayer Here's Where The Story Ends. In all, 15 of the 20 biggest sales hits of the year made it into the 1998 radio Top 50, and at least one other (the Spice Girls' Goodbye at 86) could well have made it if it had been released earlier in the year.

Other big sellers absent from the airplay Top 50 include Chef's Chocolate Salty Balls (PS I Love You) - seven on sales but struggling at 489 on airplay - and Baddiel/Skinner and the Lightning Seeds' 3

Lions '98 - 14 on sales and 151 at radio. The latter had earlier topped the Airplay Chart but vanished on the back of England's exit from the World Cup.

The main releases that failed to transfer sales success on to the radio, however, were the newly-arrived teen pop acts. B'Witched's C'est La Vie was the fifth-biggest sales hit but only finished at 62 on radio. Likewise, Steps' run of three Top 10 sales hits was accompanied by a disappointing best overall airplay showing of 173 (Heartbeat), while Billie finished even lower down with Because We Want To - her biggest radio hit at 225. The Spice Girls bucked the anti-pop trend by registering two of radio's 50 most-successful tracks, led by Stop - their only single to date not to be a sales number one - registering at 36. In 1997, the best they could manage was 44 with 2 Become 1.

The Spice Girls helped Virgin Records' tally to seven in the Top 50, matching Warner Music, whose score included three hits by The Corrs. Both were beaten by Sony Music,

registering twice with Savage Garden and once each with six other acts, and PolyGram which appeared an unbeatable 13 times.

In contrast, Robbie Williams' personal success was a rare triumph for EMI, its only representative in 1998's Top 50.

Four of PolyGram's tracks were in the top eight of the year, including Eagle-Eye Cherry's Save Tonight (fourth) and Karen Ramirez's Looking For Love, which was radio's sixth biggest-hit of the year despite only peaking at eight on the sales chart. Polydor's Cherry was the highest-ranked new artist on the chart with the Top 10 occupied completely by Ninetees acts.

Meanwhile, a number of old favourites from 1997 retained their popularity during 1998. In fact, four of the five biggest radio hits of 1997 figured in 1998's year-end radio chart. The reward for enduring popularity, however, must go to Everything But The Girl's Missing, which dropped off the sales chart in March 1998 but finished 1998 as the 82nd biggest radio hit of the year. **Paul Williams**

PK	WOC	Title	Artist	label
1	1	34	ANGELS	Chrysalis
Robbie Williams				
2	1	23	HERE'S WHERE THE STORY ENDS	Tin Tin Out VC Recordings
3	1	38	TORN	Natalie Imbruglia RCA
4	1	29	SAVE TONIGHT	Eagle-Eye Cherry Polydor
5	3	24	TRULY MADLY DEEPLY	Savage Garden Columbia
6	1	35	LOOKING FOR LOVE	Karen Ramirez Manifesto
7	2	25	HIGH	Lighthouse Family Wild Card/Polydor
8	1	17	NEVER EVER	All Saints London
9	1	17	BRIMFUL OF ASHA	Cornershop Wija
10	2	20	WHAT CAN I DO	The Corrs Atlantic
11	1	23	TOGETHER AGAIN	Janet Jackson Virgin
12	1	23	MILLENNIUM	Robbie Williams Chrysalis
13	1	16	FROZEN	Madonna Maverick
14	3	19	LET ME ENTERTAIN YOU	Robbie Williams Chrysalis
15	1	21	CRUSH	Janet Falge EAR/Edel
16	2	22	IF YOU TOLERATE THIS...	Manic Street Preachers Epic
17	1	13	BELIEVE	Cher WEA
18	1	18	STRANDED	Lutricia McNeal Wildstar
19	1	24	NO MATTER WHAT	Boyzone Polydor
20	5	20	TO THE MOON AND BACK	Savage Garden Columbia
21	1	19	PERFECT 10	The Beautiful South Gal Discs/Mercy
22	1	23	MUSIC SOUNDS BETTER WITH YOU	Stardust Virgin
23	1	16	OUTSIDE	George Michael Epic
24	6	19	THE BOY IS MINE	Brandy & Monica Atlantic

PK	WOC	Title	Artist	label
25	2	20	FEEL IT	The Temper feat Mava Pepper
26	3	22	RAY OF LIGHT	Madonna Maverick
27	2	25	BITTER SWEET SYMPHONY	The Verve Hut/Virgin
28	5	15	MY HEART WILL GO ON	Celine Dion Epic
29	2	19	UNDER THE BRIDGE	All Saints London
30	3	22	LIFE	De'rose Dusted Sound/Sony S2
31	4	17	IT'S LIKE THAT	Ron DMC Vs Jason Nevins Smile Communications
32	5	16	DREAMS	The Corrs Atlantic
33	1	7	GHETTO SUPASTAR...	Pras feat ODB & Mya Interscope
34	2	18	HORN	Mousse T Vs Hot 'n' Juicy AM/PM
35	4	14	KISS THE RAIN	Billie Myers Universal
36	3	14	STOP	Spice Girls Virgin
37	4	18	I DON'T WANT TO MISS A THING	Aerosmith Columbia
38	3	14	LIFE IS A FLOWER	Ace Of Base London
39	1	13	VIVA FOREVER	Spice Girls Virgin
40	2	15	SWEETEST THING U2	Island
41	1	23	HOW DO I LIVE	LeAnn Rimes Curb/The Hit Label
42	8	14	AIN'T THAT JUST THE WAY	Lunice McNeal Wildstar
43	1	16	GETTIN' JIGGY WIT IT	Will Smith Columbia
44	1	10	ALL AROUND THE WORLD	Oasis Creation
45	3	14	TURN BACK TIME	Aqua Universal
46	4	13	YOU MAKE ME WANNA...	Usher La Face
47	1	21	FREE	Ultra Nate AM/PM
48	1	10	SO YOUNG	The Corrs Atlantic
49	8	14	SONNET	The Verve Hut/Virgin
50	4	10	BABY CAN I HOLD YOU TONIGHT	Boyzone Polydor

### CHART COMMENTARY

by ALAN JONES



Increasingly resembling a latter-day Jonathan King, but with musical talent, Norman Cook tops the chart for the third time in a long and varied career this week. He first topped in 1986 with Caravan Of Love, as a member of the Housemartins, and returned in 1990, as the leader of Beats International, who reached pole position with Dub Be Good To Me. He completes his hat trick this

### SINGLE FILE

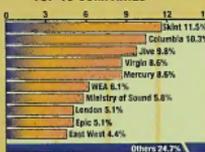
week in his Fatboy Slim guise with Praise You, having previously reached number six with Rockafeller Skank and number three with Gangster Trippin'. Cook has also had a number three hit as a member of Freakypear (Turn On, Tune In, Drop Out, 1995), a number 18 hit as Pizzaman (Trippin' On Sunshine, 1996) and number 43 as the Mighty Dub Katz (Just Another Groove, 1996).

The UK has its sixth number one in as many weeks, as Fatboy Slim becomes the latest artist to claim pole position, courtesy of Praise You. In a disastrous week for singles - only 834,000 were sold, a third as many as three weeks ago, and the lowest tally for at least three years - Praise You accounted for nearly 10% of all sales, selling nearly 81,000 copies. The vocals on the record are taken from 'Take Yo', Praise by sixties R&B singer Camille Yarbrough - the original version is currently available only on *I Like It*, a 1996 compilation on Ace Records. BCF label (CDSPD 106).

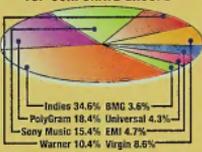
Despite writing upwards of 40 Top 10 hits in a long and distinguished career, The Bee Gees have never had two of their songs appear simultaneously in the top three - until now. Robin, Maurice and Barry turn the trick this week, courtesy of Steps' version of Tragedy, and the Blockster's You Should Be... Based (obviously) on their song You Should Be Dancing. The latter title debuts at

### MARKET REPORT

#### TOP 10 COMPANIES



#### TOP CORPORATE GROUPS



#### SALES UPDATE

VERSUS LAST WEEK: -27.4%  
 YEAR TO DATE VERSUS LAST YEAR: -36.1%

#### PERCENTAGE OF UK ACTS IN THE CHART

UK: 67.3% US: 30.7% Other: 12.0%

number three this week, becoming the biggest hit yet for the Sound Of Ministry label, and completes an all-Indie top three.

The Bee Gees came close to having simultaneous top three hits several times in the seventies, their best effort being in May

1978, when their own recording of Night Fever was at number two, while Yvonne Elliman was at four with their song 'I Can't Have You.

Boy band Ultra finally register their first Top 10 hit at the fourth attempt. They reached number 11 with their debut hit Say You Do some nine months ago, but their progress has been all in the wrong direction since, with Say It Once peaking at number 16 and the Right Time halting at number 28. They debut at eight this week with Rescue Me.

Cher's Believe dips out of the top five for the first time, slipping 4-7 on its 12th week in the chart. It has sold 1,526,000 copies so far, overtaking Jennifer Rush's The Power Of Love to become the second biggest seller by a female soloist in UK chart history.

Ahead of it, and certain to be overtaken in the next week or so, is only Whitney Houston's I Will Always Love You, which sold 1,571,000.

## THE YEAR SO FAR... TOP 20 SINGLES

- |    |   |                           |                      |
|----|---|---------------------------|----------------------|
| 1  | PRAYE YOU                               | FATBOY SLIM               | SKINT                |
| 2  | HEARTBREAK/TRAGEDY                      | STEPS                     | EBULJIVE             |
| 3  | YOU SHOULD BE...                        | BLOCKSTER                 | SOUND OF MINISTRY    |
| 4  | CHOCOLATE SALTY BALLS (P.S. I LOVE YOU) | CHEF                      | COLUMBIA             |
| 5  | GOODBYE                                 | SPICE GIRLS               | VIRGIN               |
| 6  | WHEN YOU'RE GONE                        | BRYAN ADAMS feat. MEL C.  | MERCURY/AM           |
| 7  | BELIEVE                                 | CHER                      | WEA                  |
| 8  | RESCUE ME                               | ULTRA                     | EAST WEST            |
| 9  | END OF THE LINE                         | HONEYZ                    | MERCURY              |
| 10 | UP TO THE WILDSTYLE                     | PORRI KINGS VS DJ SUPREME | ALL AROUND THE WORLD |
| 11 | OVER YOU                                | JUSTIN                    | VIRGIN               |
| 12 | MIAMI                                   | WILL SMITH                | COLUMBIA             |
| 13 | BIG BIG WORLD                           | EMILIA                    | UNIVERSAL            |
| 14 | GOOD RHYMES                             | DA DUCK                   | PRFR                 |
| 15 | TO YOU I BELONG                         | B'WITCHED                 | GLOW WORM/SPIC       |
| 16 | ESPECIALLY FOR YOU                      | DENISE AND JOHNNY         | RCA                  |
| 17 | I LOVE THE WAY YOU LOVE ME              | BOYZONE                   | POLYDOR              |
| 18 | UP AND DOWN                             | VENGABOVS                 | POSTIVA              |
| 19 | ALWAYS HAVE, ALWAYS WILL                | ACE OF BASE               | LONDON               |
| 20 | 1999                                    | PRINCE                    | WARNER BROS          |

21	THE ARTIST	Label	21	THE ARTIST	Label
1	PRAYE YOU	Fatboy Slim	21	ALWAYS HAVE, ALWAYS WILL	Ace Of Base
2	HEARTBREAK/TRAGEDY	Steps	22	I DON'T WANT TO MISS A THING	Aventura
3	YOU SHOULD BE...	Blockster	23	I WANT YOU	Enigma
4	CHOCOLATE SALTY BALLS	Chef	24	TO YOU I BELONG	Emilia
5	GOODBYE	Spice Girls	25	MUSIC SOUNDS BETTER WITH YOU	Cornel West
6	WHEN YOU'RE GONE	Bryan Adams	26	THE POWER OF GOOD-BYE	Mariah
7	BELIEVE	Cher	27	THE EVERLASTING	Janet Jackson
8	RESCUE ME	Ultra	28	BRIGHT HERE HIGH	France
9	END OF THE LINE	Honeyz	29	I WANT YOU FOR MYSELF	Another Level
10	UP TO THE WILDSTYLE	Porri Kings	30	UP AND DOWN	Boyzone
11	OVER YOU	Justin	31	POSTCARD FROM HEAVEN	Lightshow
12	MIAMI	Will Smith	32	BAD GIRLS	Jay-Z
13	BIG BIG WORLD	Emilia	33	THANK U	Mariah
14	GOOD RHYMES	Da Duck	34	PERFECT 10	Garbage
15	TO YOU I BELONG	B'Witched	35	HARD KNOCK LIFE	Jay-Z
16	ESPECIALLY FOR YOU	Denise	36	GIRLS NIGHT OUT	Janet
17	I LOVE THE WAY YOU LOVE ME	Boyzone	37	LITTLE BIT OF LOVE	Kate
18	UP AND DOWN	Vengaboys	38	OVER YOU	Justin
19	ALWAYS HAVE, ALWAYS WILL	Ace Of Base	39	TAKE ME THERE	Blockster
20	1999	Prince	40	ESPECIALLY FOR YOU	Denise

### CHECK OUT THE ORIGINAL

CAMILLE YARBROUGH'S  
*"Take Yo' Praise"*  
 as featured on

# FATBOY SLIM'S

*"Praise You"*

exclusively available on the multi-artist compilation  
**I LIKE IT**

10 x 1" Single Top LP - BPCD 3198  
 Distributed by Pinnacle

### PLANET PROTECTION

U2 • massive attack • chemical brothers  
 roni size & repprezent • underworld  
 LTJ bukem • beth orton • bentley rhythm ace  
 fatboy slim • satc • abacoo • banco da gaia • 808 state  
 medicine drum • manna • men • face on mars  
 dreadzone • astralasia • electric skyburn • the rhythmists

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	This Week	Last Week	Title	Label
1	END OF THE LINE	1	Honeyz	Columbia
2	PRETTY FLY FOR A WHITE GUY!	2	The Offspring	AM/Mercury
3	WHEN YOU'RE GONE	3	Bryan Adams & Mel C	Columbia
4	GOODBYE Spice Girls	4	Spice Girls	Virgin
5	MIAMI Will Smith	5	Will Smith	Columbia
6	PRaise Yo Fatboy Slim	6	Fatboy Slim	Skint
7	GIMME SOME MORE	7	Busta Rhymes	East West
8	BElieve	8	Cher	WEA
9	NATIONAL EXPRESS	9	The Divine Comedy	Sentana
10	HARD KNOCK LIFE	10	Jay-Z	Northwestside

Most played videos on MTV UK/Media Research Ltd w/e 8/1/99  
Source: MTV UK

	This Week	Last Week	Title	Label
1	TRAGEDY	1	Steps	Columbia
2	CHOCOLATE SALLY BALLS	2	Cher	WEA
3	PRETTY FLY FOR A WHITE GUY!	3	The Offspring	AM/Mercury
4	BElieve	4	Cher	WEA
5	MIAMI Will Smith	5	Will Smith	Columbia
6	PRaise Yo Fatboy Slim	6	Fatboy Slim	Skint
7	NO MATTER WHAT	7	Boyzone	Really Useful/Polydor
8	MY HEART WILL GO ON	8	Celine Dion	Columbia
9	WHEN YOU'RE GONE	9	Bryan Adams & Mel C	AM/Mercury
10	ONE FOR SORROW	10	Steps	Jive/Dubl

Most played videos on the Box, w/e 3/1/99  
Source: The Box

	This Week	Last Week	Title	Label
1	MADNESS THING	1	Lemai	ZTT
2	I WANT YOU FOR MYSELF	2	Another Level	Northwestside
3	GET ON THE BUS	3	The Destiny's Child feat. Timbaland	East West
4	GIMME SOME MORE	4	Busta Rhymes	East West
5	PRaise Yo Fatboy Slim	5	Fatboy Slim	Skint
6	THE NEW STYLE	6	Avengers Freestyle feat. MC D&J & Skibby	Times Two
7	WILDSTYLE	7	Porn Kings Vs DJ Supreme	All Around The World
8	THE MASTERPLAN	8	On 4	Creation
9	WESTSIDETQ	9	Westside	Epico
10	I WANT YOU BACK	10	N' Sync	Northwestside

Most played climbing videos on the Box in advance of single release w/e 3/1/99  
Source: The Box

## TOP OF THE POPS

**TOP OF THE POPS**  
Prize You Fatboy Slim; You Should Be Dancing; Backstreet Boys; When You're Gone; Bryan Adams & Mel C; Believe; Cher; Rescue Me; Little Bit; End Of The Line; Honeyz; Good Rymes; DJ; Over You Justin; Big World; Emila; I Love The Way You Move Me Boyzone

Draft lineup 15/1/99

## CD:UK

**CD:UK**  
Performance: I Want You For Myself; Another Level; You're Believin' B'Witched; Rescue Me; You Should Be Dancing; Backstreet Boys; Get On The Bus; Beautiful Day; Three Colours Red; Interview: E:17

Draft lineup 15/1/99

## THE PEPSI CHART

**THE PEPSI CHART**  
Performance: I Want You For Myself; Another Level; You Should Be Dancing; Backstreet Boys; Get On The Bus; Beautiful Day; Fatboy Slim

Draft lineup 14/1/99

## RADIO ONE PLAYLISTS

**A-List** Beautiful Day; Three Colours Red; Enjoy Yourself A:1; When You're Gone; Bryan Adams & Mel C; Boy You Knock Me Out; Tatyana Ali; I Want You For Myself; Another Level; Backstreet Boys; You Should Be Dancing; Backstreet Boys; You Want It (Kiss My) The Corrs; More Than This; Emila; Little Bit; End Of The Line; Honeyz; Pretty Fly (For A White Guy); The Offspring; Every Day; Every Me; Peaches; Bad Girl; Little Bit; Emila; Will Smith; Goodbye Spice Girls; Toni Braxton; Tequila Termination; You Don't Know Me; Armand Van Helden

**B-List** A Little Bit; More 911; Walk Like A Panther; All Seeing; One Week; Barenaked Ladies; National Express; The Divine Comedy; Emila; Big Big World; To Earth With Love; Gay Day; Ex-Factor; Louisa; Will; Melba; How; When I Argue; I See Shapes; Kidz; Good Life; (Bueno Vista) Inner City; Highrise Town; The Lantiers; Nazel Loop; Da Loop; Crazy Luck; Delta Sun; Mercury Rev

R1 plays for week beginning 11/1/99  
\* Denotes additions

## RADIO TWO PLAYLISTS

**A-List** You're Believin' B'Witched; Goodbye Spice Girls; End Of The Line; Honeyz; Big Big World; Emila; Heartbeat Steps; Postcards From Heaven; Signs; Family; I Wish I Were Your Girl's Best Friend; A Little Bit; More 911; Deezing M People

**B-List** I Want You '99; Savage Garden; The Greatest Love Of All; Here I Am; Little Bit; Michael; Heaven From Here; Robbie Williams; Don't Let This Moment End; Gloria Estefan; Talk On Canvas - The Remains (Album); The Corrs; Love The Way You Love Me; Boyzone; Rescue Me; Little Bit; You Love Me; Hear Your Heart; Jones; A Promise; I Make Dakota; Moon; Eden; Sarah Brightman

**BBC RADIO 1**  
Genre: Some More Busta Rhymes; Can't Get Enough; Soul Sufferer; Baby One More Time; Britney Spears; Westside TK; King Of Snakes Underworld

**As Featured** 'Changes 2; Pic; Cassius 99; Cassius; The Loves Desert Eye; Dns; These Are The Times; Dru Hill; 'What It's Like Outside'; 'You Got Me'; Spring Up; Ozzy Osbourne; Love; Love; How; As Good As It Gets; Gene; 'Rush; Kershay; Given Up; Mirror; Bad; Flame; Seacrest; 'Be There UNLKE

**BBC RADIO 2**  
(Album) Various; A Heartbeat Away; The McEwan; Waltz #2 (KX) Elton; Givin'; I Can See; Lady New; Neil Finn; Geraldine; Ian Dury; Believe; Cher; Chet's Girl; Simply Red; Especially For You; Dennis & Johnny; Dumb The Beautiful; Single; Forever Love; Robb; McEwan; Maria; Blondie

## MTV UK PLAYLISTS

**Heavy** Miami Will Smith; No Regrets; Let Me Entertain You; Anger/Ministry; Robbie Williams; End Of The Line; Fatboy Slim; Honeyz; Spice Girls; When You're Gone; Bryan Adams & Mel C; Peets; Girl; Little Bit; End Of The Line; Honeyz; I Want You For Myself; Another Level

**Hot** All Of Nervez/Always; Something Three To Three; I Want You For Myself; Hard Knock Life; Jay-Z; Big World; Emila; She Loves You; B'Witched; Heartbeat/Tragedy Steps; I Want The Way You Love Me; No Matter What; Boyzone; To I; Believin' B'Witched; Chocolate Sally Balls; Gimmie Some More; Busta Rhymes; Praise Yo Fatboy Slim; You Should Be Dancing; Backstreet

**Buzz Bin** Get On The Bus; Destiny's Child feat. Timbaland; To Earth With Love; Gay Day; Westside TK; Beautiful Day; Three Colours Red; National Express; The Divine Comedy

**Breakers** So Young/Dreams/What Can I Do (The Corrs); Until The Time/Memphis/It's Five; I Want You '98; Savage Garden; Take Me There; Backstreet Boys; Kiss; What I Miss; You; Aisha's; Alibi; Dumb; The Beautiful; So; When You Believe; Mariah Carey & Whitney Houston; The Greatest Love You'll Never Know; Lantia; McEwan; Cassius 99; Cassius; A Little Bit; More 911; Deezing M People; Betsie; Can't Wait; E:17

## AMERICAN CHARTWATCH

by ALAN JONES

Al hit one album on the Top 200 suffered a decline in sales last week, as US retail caught a cold thanks to the combination of the usual post-Christmas sales slump and some historically bad weather, with winter storms causing chaos through much of the east and midwest.

The only album to triumph over market conditions was the movie soundtrack *The Faculty*, which sprinted 138-55 with a near 20% upswing in sales. R&B fans seemed happier than most, and most of the chart's big climbers are therefore hip-hop records, with Jay-Z's *Hard Knock Life* moving 10-3, 2Pac's *Greatest Hits* surging 11-6 and *The Misadventure Of Lauryn Hill* charging 16-10. Hardcore rapper DMX retains the number one slot with *Flesh Of My Flesh, Blood Of My Blood*, which sold more than 248,000 copies last week.

Several Brits took advantage of the slump to make their own modest advances, with *Fatboy Slim's* 'You've Come A Long Way Baby', which peaked at number 13 a while ago, re-entering the chart at number 174, while *Five's* self-titled album improves 157-131. *Phil Collins's* *Lives Bouncing 87-81* and *George Michael's* *Ladies & Gentlemen* album up 91-

77. Having had a pre-Christmas lull, the *Spice Girls* album returns their decline, with *Spiceworld* down 74-89 and *Spice* making a similar 76-90 slide. *Spice* celebrates its 100th consecutive week on the chart this week, more than any other current hit album.

On the Hot 100 chart the *Spice Girls'* latest single *Goodbye* finally makes a move after three weeks in its debut position - and unfortunately, it's sharply downwards, moving 11-37. The only other British record on the chart, it's *The Things You Do* by *Five*, makes an even steeper decline, falling 70-97. Meanwhile, *Cher's* Brit-written hit *Believe*, which had been improving nicely (39-78-59-47) suddenly goes into reverse, sliding back to number 52. Finally, it may be a new year but some things never change, one of which is Diane Warren's dominance. The writer of *LeAnn Rimes' How Deep Is Your Love* and *Aerosmith's* *I Don't Want To Miss A Thing*, has another number one under her belt this week, with *Brandy's* *Have You Ever?* climbing 31-1. And, aside from Prince's 1999, which re-charts at number 40, Warren also wrote the chart's only other new entry, *Boyz II Men's* *I Will Get There*, which debuts at number 76.

## INTERNATIONAL PROFILE: SPICE GIRLS

by PAUL WILLIAMS

The latest chapter in the *Spice Girls'* international career could hardly be beginning in greater contrast to the first. Three years ago, as its virtual unknowns, the group started the first of what would become an ongoing series of trips around the globe as they turned from wannabes to the UK's biggest pop exports since *The Beatles*. Forward to 1999 and the only promotion decely involving the girls for their first single recorded as a foursome is a video and several radio interviews they carried out from London.

With half the line-up pregnant and the other two members involved in other projects, Virgin Records' international department has been fairly restricted in the support it can give *Goodbye*. But, despite these challenges, the track is, so far, more than living up to expectations, going to number one in New Zealand and Italy, and reaching the Top 10 in most European territories.

Their popularity in the States was further confirmed by the single entering the sales chart at four in its week of release and debuting at 11 on the *Billboard* Hot 100, though its lack of airplay prevented any

further chart progress. As Virgin's international marketing manager Bart Coole notes, "Since the chart changed to 80% airplay and 20% sales it's even more difficult to get a single high in the charts."

For Coole, *Goodbye* represents the start of the next chapter in the group's history. "It's the first single released without Geri, so for them it's some statement," he says. "Though it's called *Goodbye* it's not a goodbye. Instead they're moving into different areas. Two of them are having children. Emma is doing *Sleeping Beauty* and Mel & Ci is in the studio at the moment recording."

As such, exact plans for the next *Spice Girls* releases are yet to emerge, though a two documentary is due to come out on video at Easter. "It all depends when they go back in the studio," says Coole. Virgin is working on the basis that there might well be a third *Spice Girls* album this year. In the meantime, however, the group can at last take a pause on what has been almost one continuous round of promotion worldwide. "It's giving them a bit of a break because they've had the two most hectic years anyone's ever had," says Coole.

16 JANUARY 1999

How many weeks in the Top 50  
 How many weeks in the Top 10  
 How many weeks in the Top 50

1		Spice Girls		Virgin		1657	-1	68.83	+17	
▲	2	3	6	WHEN YOU'RE GONE	Bryan Adams feat. Mel C.	A&M/Mercury	2659	+10	68.37	+30
▲	3	11	37	SO YOUNG	The Corrs	Atlantic	1730	+16	65.98	+22
▲	4	9	9	END OF THE LINE	Honeyz	1st Avenue/Mercury	1431	+26	59.22	+41
▲	5	4	13	BIG BIG WORLD	Emilia	Universal	1337	+7	52.21	+21
▲	6	12	47	DUMB	The Beautiful South	Gold/Discs/Mercury	1213	+13	51.97	+58
▲	7	7	12	MIAMI	Will Smith	Columbia	1051	+25	47.16	+34
▲	8	10	47	OUTSIDE	George Michael	Epic	1344	-3	45.47	+35
▲	9	3	1	PRaise YOU	Fatboy Slim	Skinet	945	+95	45.16	+84
HIGHEST CLIMBER										
▲	10	18	2	HEARTBEAT	Steps	Ebu/Urve	873	+56	43.45	+19
▲	11	18	37	MY FAVOURITE GAME	The Cardigans	Stockholm/Polydor	1182	+14	41.94	+27
▲	12	30	37	SWEETEST THING	U2	Island	1334	+5	41.83	+20
▲	13	5	4	BAD GIRLS	Juliet Roberts	Delirious	908	+76	40.04	+63
▲	14	5	7	BEHAVE	Cher	WEA	1650	+1	39.97	-6
▲	15	3	2	I WANT YOU FOR MYSELF	Another Level	Northwestside	701	+50	36.22	+59
▲	16	19	14	THE POWER OF GOOD-BYE	Madonna	Maverick	1200	-4	35.22	+22
▲	17	19	11	I LOVE THE WAY YOU LOVE ME	Boyzone	Polydor	1379	+3	34.38	+10
▲	18	7	15	TO YOU I BELONG	B*Witched	Glow Worm/Epic	798	+21	33.30	+10
▲	19	10	4	THE EVERLASTING	Manic Street Preachers	Epic	646	+8	33.10	+15
▲	20	17	30	1999	Prince	Warner Bros	822	+50	33.04	+35
▲	21	14	9	ALWAYS HAVE, ALWAYS WILL	Ace Of Base	London	1045	-1	32.58	+4
▲	22	11	4	A LITTLE BIT MORE	911	Virgin	427	+68	32.15	+18
▲	23	15	3	YOU SHOULD BE...	Blockstar	Sound Of Ministry	500	+55	31.96	+41
▲	24	19	12	NO REGRETS	Robbie Williams	Chrysalis	1270	+1	31.64	+19
▲	25	13	13	I WANT YOU	Savage Garden	Columbia	1030	-1	29.56	-7
▲	26	4	3	POSTCARD FROM HEAVEN	Lighthouse Family	Wild Card/Polydor	826	+40	29.35	+14
▲	27	3	4	MORE THAN THIS	Emilia	Manifesto/Mercury	498	+75	28.58	+55
▲	28	14	4	THANK U	Agnie Morissette	Maverick/Reprise	722	-3	27.91	-4
▲	29	17	14	MUSIC SOUNDS BETTER WITH YOU	Stardust	Virgin	669	-11	27.14	-7
▲	30	10	3	PERFECT 10	The Beautiful South	Gold/Discs/Mercury	632	-8	26.70	-9
▲	31	4	3	WHEN I GROW UP	Garbage	Mushroom	224	+07	25.84	+73
▲	32	15	15	I DON'T WANT TO MISS A THING	Aeromith	Columbia	934	+2	24.53	-3
▲	33	25	19	MILLENNIUM	Robbie Williams	Chrysalis	558	n/c	23.99	-4
BIGGEST INCREASE IN PLAYS										
BIGGEST INCREASE IN AUDIENCE										
▲	34	25	1	DREAMING	M People	M People/BMG	321	+241	18.32	+610
▲	35	11	9	TEQUILA	Terrorvision	Total Veggies/EMI	120	+114	18.30	+33
▲	36	17	2	RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW	Fierce	Wildstar	412	+68	17.78	+31
▲	37	32	4	CRUSH	Jennifer Paige	Edel	735	+4	17.70	+3
▲	38	1	2	WHEN YOU BELIEVE	Mariah Carey/Whitney Houston	Columbia	377	+25	17.62	+5
▲	39	2	1	MARIA	Beyoncé	Beyond	327	+65	17.25	+4
▲	40	11	18	LITTLE BIT OF LOVIN'	Kele Le Roc	1st Avenue/Polydor	613	-4	17.07	+11
▲	41	13	14	WISH I WERE YOU	Alicia's Attic	Mercury	383	+47	17.00	+28
▲	42	45	11	FALLING IN LOVE AGAIN	Eagle Eye Cherry	Polydor	520	-23	16.65	+42
▲	43	1	9	PRETTY FLY (FOR A WHITE GUY)	The Offspring	Columbia	265	+31	15.90	+51
▲	44	11	10	UP AND DOWN	Vergaboyz	Positiva/EMI	464	-12	15.88	+40
▲	45	14	1	GOOD LIFE	Inner City	Play It Again Sam	273	+178	15.87	+29
▲	46	19	1	WESTSIDE	TQ	Epic/Clockwork/Atlantic	344	+167	15.74	+74
▲	47	3	1	WHAT CAN I DO	The Corrs	143/Lava/Defendant	506	-18	15.57	-6
▲	48	1	3	SPECIALLY FOR YOU	Denise & Johnny	RCA	175	-1	15.34	+39
▲	49	1	3	THE GREATEST LOVE	Lutricia McNeal	Wildstar	404	+12	15.05	-1
MOST ADDED										
50	0	0	0	YOU DON'T KNOW ME	Armand Van Helden	fr/London	177	n/c	14.95	n/c

© Music Control. Compiled from the charts generated between 00:01 on 16.01.1999 and 23:59 on 16.01.1999. Sources include: audience figures based on sales for each single. Audience increase: ▲ Audience increase 50% or more

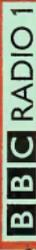
**Music Control UK rankings** These statistics 24 hours in a day, seven days a week. 2pm FM; 30m FM; Airw; Alpha 103.2 FM; Atlantic 252; B37 FM; BBC Radio 1; BBC Radio 2; BBC Radio 3; BBC Radio 4; BBC Radio 5; BBC Radio 6; BBC Radio 7; BBC Radio 8; BBC Radio 9; BBC Radio 10; BBC Radio 11; BBC Radio 12; BBC Radio 13; BBC Radio 14; BBC Radio 15; BBC Radio 16; BBC Radio 17; BBC Radio 18; BBC Radio 19; BBC Radio 20; BBC Radio 21; BBC Radio 22; BBC Radio 23; BBC Radio 24; BBC Radio 25; BBC Radio 26; BBC Radio 27; BBC Radio 28; BBC Radio 29; BBC Radio 30; BBC Radio 31; BBC Radio 32; BBC Radio 33; BBC Radio 34; BBC Radio 35; BBC Radio 36; BBC Radio 37; BBC Radio 38; BBC Radio 39; BBC Radio 40; BBC Radio 41; BBC Radio 42; BBC Radio 43; BBC Radio 44; BBC Radio 45; BBC Radio 46; BBC Radio 47; BBC Radio 48; BBC Radio 49; BBC Radio 50; BBC Radio 51; BBC Radio 52; BBC Radio 53; BBC Radio 54; BBC Radio 55; BBC Radio 56; BBC Radio 57; BBC Radio 58; BBC Radio 59; BBC Radio 60; BBC Radio 61; BBC Radio 62; 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16  
January  
1999

# THE OFFICIAL CHARTS

100%  
music week

AS USED BY



# albums



## 1 I PRAISE YOU

Faithy Slim

- |                         |                            |  |                     |  |              |                 |                        |   |                 |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|--|---------------------|--|--------------|-----------------|------------------------|---|-----------------|
| 1                       | 2                          | 3  | 4                   | 5  | 6            | 7               | 8                      | 9   | 10              |
| HEARTBEAT/TRAGEDY Steps | YOU SHOULD BE... Blockster | CHOCOLATE SALTY BALLS (PS I LOVE YOU) Chef | GOODBYE Spice Girls | WHEN YOU'RE GONE Bryan Adams feat. Mel C | BELIEVE Cher | RESCUE ME Ultra | END OF THE LINE Honeyz | UP TO THE WILDSTYLE Pom Kings Vs DJ Supreme | OVER YOU Justin |
| Shint                   | Ebu/Jive                   | Sound Of Ministry                          | Virgin              | Mel C A&M/Mercury                        | WEA          | East West       | 1st Avenue/Mercury     | AATW  | Virgin          |



## 2 I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU

Robbie Williams

- |   |                           |                    |                         |  |                      |                          |                      |                                  |                         |
|---|---------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|--|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1   | 2                         | 3                  | 4                       | 5  | 6                    | 7                        | 8                    | 9                                | 10                      |
| LADIES & GENTLEMEN - THE BEST OF George Michael | TALK ON CORNERS The Corrs | ONE STEPS Ebu/Jive | WHERE WE BELONG Boyzone | YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY, BABY Fatboy Slim | RAY OF LIGHT Madonna | THE BEST OF 1980-1990 U2 | THE BEST OF M People | LIFE THRU A LENS Robbie Williams | ONE NIGHT ONLY Bee Gees |
| Chrysalis                                       | Atlantic                  | Ebu/Jive           | Polydora                | Skin                                     | Maveric              | Island                   | M People/BMG         | Chrysalis                        | Polydora                |



## 8 MIAMI Will Smith

- |                  |                      |                        |                                      |                                    |                       |                         |                   |   |
|------------------|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|---|
| 11               | 12                   | 13                     | 14                                   | 15                                 | 16                    | 17                      | 18                | 19  |
| BIG WORLD Emilia | GOOD RHYMES Da Click | YOU I BELONG B*Witched | ESPECIALLY FOR YOU Denise And Johnny | I LOVE THE WAY YOU LOVE ME Boyzone | UP AND DOWN Vengaboys | ALWAYS WILL Ace Of Base | WITCHED B*Witched | THIS IS MY TRUTH TELL ME YOURS Manic Street Preachers |
| Columbia         | Universal            | ffrr                   | Glow Worm/Epic                       | Polybr                             | Positive              | London                  | Glow Worm/Ep      | Street Preachers Ep                                   |



## 15 SAVAGE GARDEN Savage Garden

- |                         |                  |                   |   |                             |                             |                            |   |
|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| 15                      | 16               | 17                | 18  | 19                          | 20                          | 21                         | 22  |
| ONE NIGHT ONLY Bee Gees | #1s Mariah Carey | WITCHED B*Witched | THIS IS MY TRUTH TELL ME YOURS Manic Street Preachers | SAVAGE GARDEN Savage Garden | BIG WILLIE STYLE Will Smith | QUENCH The Beautiful South | SUPPOSED FORMER INFANTUATION JONKIE Alanis Morissette |
| Polydora                | Columbia         | Glow Worm/Ep      | Street Preachers Ep                                   | Columbia                    | Columbia                    | Go Discs/Mercury           | Maveric   |



## THE OFFSPRING PRETTY FLY (FOR A WHITE GUY)

## THE NEW SINGLE OUT NEXT WEEK

Taken from the new album AMERICANA

COLUMBIA  
www.offspring.com



## gordon set to unveil neo artists

Eddie Gordon will unveil the next stage for his embryonic Neo label with a showcase this Wednesday at the Momo bar in London's West End. The night will feature showcases

by two of the label's artists, singers Simone Angel and Angela John which Gordon, former head of the Manifesto label, says will show the depth of his new label. "We've been releasing very small quantities of singles into clubland via Amato," he says. "I think we've got four Top 40 dance singles lined up but I also want to see how that label that Neo will be more than just dance tracks."

The four singles are Liquid Child's 'Divine Faves', Pulp Victim's 'World '99', Boccaccio Life's 'Secret Wish' and Love Child's 'Liberta'. Neo also has a garage wing called Black and Blue which has signed DJ Conan's 'Melodies' on to Lyn Cosgrave at Sony and has releases forthcoming from Felicie Brown and 'The Rhythm Masters'. Neo has also signed P&B and Roker to Universal.

The competition is hotting up to sign Gordon's label, with three majors and one large independent showing interest. Gordon says he expects to complete the deal early this year, and says that Neo is significantly different to the set-up at Manifesto. "I've a more mature approach, Less bulldozing spirit and more kindred spirit," he says. "It's my own company so I'm a lot cooler about things."

**pure groove.  
london**  
679 Holloway Road,  
London N19 5SE, tel:  
0171-281 4577, fax: 0171-283 5590

Pure Groove celebrates 10 years in business this month and has established itself as one of north London's leading specialists in underground garage and hard house. Celebrations took the form of a party to create more space, and an expansion to some interesting parts.

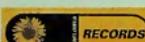
"The strangest area for us is undoubtedly underground garage, which continues to grow all the time," says proprietor Tariq Nashnash. "There aren't many other shops in the area which cater for it."

Pure Groove's team includes house DJs Steve Thomas and Joel Collins and garage DJ Zink. It also runs the garage label Locked On, which has spawned such hits as Someone's 'I Refuse', Dem 2z 'Destiny', Doolally's 'Straight From The Heart' and Tuff Jam's 'Need Good Love'.

Doing well on the house side of things at the moment are MARK HROTS' 'Horse Music in My Brain' on Tripoli Trax, FRAMMA's 'Higher' on Tidy Trax and ODA04's '2 Press' on Cacti. Garage-wise, DA CLIC's 'Good Rhythms' on Mr. NEW HORIZONS' 'Scrap Iron Dubs Vol 1' (white label) and US ALLIANCE's 'All I Know' on Locked On are all current big sellers.

Other recent moves include a mail order service which can be accessed via the internet at [www.puregroove.co.uk](http://www.puregroove.co.uk).

## (LABEL)



## (FOCUS)

### SUNFLOWER

24 Porden Road, London SW2 8RT,  
tel/fax: 0171-733 6114

#### HISTORY:

Sunflower came into being three years ago with a name reflecting its

intention of releasing fresh music which could grow into something bigger. Founders Dylan Barnes and Sebastian Davey had been heavily influenced by US sounds from acts such as Masters At Work, DJ Sneak, Todd Terry and Armand Van Helten, and by labels such as Hardmix, Cajual, Strictly Rhythm and Yachtclub, and wanted to move Sunflower in a similar direction.

"I worked with Simon Ratcliffe on Helicopter for three years and we realised that we needed fresh input and something more to get our teeth into," says Barnes. "The house scene was getting really boring and I'd had enough. Sunflower was the thing that

jump-started me back into gear. I suppose it was garage early on but then we started moving it in all directions, keeping it interesting

whether the sales were huge or low." Barnes handles the production and A&R duties, travelling back and forth to America to hook up UK artists with US remixers and vice versa, including a forthcoming MAW mix of 'Bliss' by Mutiny featuring Mary Joy. Davey, an ex-lawyer, handles the business side of the label, though has been tempted into the label's Camberville studios for a spot of production.

**SPECIALIST AREAS:** Pumping, jacking, deep, frenzied party flavoured house

#### KEY ARTISTS:

Earl, Mutiny, J&J, Hardwire, Hillside Monastery, Prophets Of Sound

#### LAST THREE RELEASES:

'Night EP' Prophets Of Sound;  
'Rainbow's End' EP Mary Joy;  
'Midnight Daze' EP Hardwire  
'Bliss' Mary Joy; 'Body EP' Mutiny vs J&J; 'Birdman's Revenge' Mike Delgarico; 'Green Tea' Freeman  
'HEAVENLY VIEW'

"Sunflower are definitely the unsung heroes of the UK dance scene, with a wide variety of releases under their belts. The only guideline they conform to is one of quality" - Jeremy Newall, *Release The Groove*

# [7 DAYS IN DANCE]

david piccioni owner, black market/azul



"Tuesday: Stood on the door of **BLACK MARKET** attempting to limit the amount of people packed in there; sardines had nothing on these people. US DJs were in town so sorted out **ANGEL MORAES**, **MATTIAS HELBERON** and **ROGER SANCHEZ** among others. Visited **SHIMON DUMMIO** in his new **DEFECTED** office and rounded up the evasive **BOOKER T** (who I manage) to collect his mix on the new **BEVERLEY KNIGHT** single. Wednesday: Arranged for **CLUB ASYLUM** to do the dance remixes on the new **GINUWINE** single and met with the boys to discuss it. Got new **BLACK SCIENCE/PETE HELLER** mixes of the **STUDIO 45** single 'Freak It!' and rushed to get them to the right people before New Year's Eve. Did an interview on **CRASH FM** for **GRAEME PARK**, sorted out **AZUL** press promotion with **NICKY TRAX**, managed to shut her up quickly (a rare event) and went home to sort out records for three gigs in **ITALY**. Thursday: Quick New Year drink with the Black Market crew and off to share a plane to **RIMINI** with the pouing **DJ FAULLETTE** and **TASTY 'Mad Hair' TIM**. Over there, met with **RICKY MONTAKARI** and **ANDREA MANGANELLI** for whom we run the **ETHOS MAMA** label, and met with the **BH&S MARTINI GUYS**, then did the three gigs that lasted well into Friday evening. Saturday: Back on a 7am flight from **ROMA** to catch **HUGGERSFIELD TOWN** win pathetically at QPR and home for a kip before a great gig at the **MINISTRY** on Saturday with the astoundingly fine **FRANCIS KERWINKIN**. Hung out there with **DEREK DAHLARGE**, **DANNY RAMPLING** and **PATRIZIA** so Sunday didn't really exist. Monday: Back to work for the rest of the industry, so the usual endless calls were only interrupted by a visit to the studio for a radio edit of Studio 45's 'Freak It!'"



The group are currently in the studio recording a new album, which is due for release in the late summer.

Cult rap act Jurassic 5 (pictured) have signed to the Stereo MCs' publishing company Spirit Songs via its joint venture deal with EMI Publishing. Jurassic 5's debut album featured in numerous end-of-year best album polls and the US group built a strong reputation on the UK live scene last year with their back-to-basics rap.

Spirit Songs, which also holds the publishing rights for artists such as Finley Guay, fought off strong opposition from other major publishers to sign the West Coast rappers. Spirit Songs MD Keith Cooper says, "We're really pleased to do the deal. We originally tried to sign them to our label and couldn't but as a result we struck up a really good relationship with them early on."

The deal will cover the world apart from North America and comes only a short time after the group completed a new record deal for the world with Interscope/Universal. Guy Moot, senior A&R manager at EMI Publishing, says, "We're really thrilled to be doing this deal as a joint venture with Spirit Songs. Jurassic 5 have put in a lot of work over the past year and have laid the groundwork for a long and fruitful career."

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1999

**1** **PRAS**  
Fabolous Slim

2 **HEARTBEAT**

3 **YOU SHOULD**

4 **CHOCOLATE**

5 **GOODBYES**

6 **WHEN YOU'**

7 **BELIEVE CH**

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9 **END OF THE**

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16 **ESPECIALLY**

17 **I LOVE THE**

18 **UP AND DO'**

19 **ALWAYS HA**



100

hot vinyl

[on the decks: andy beavers,  
chris finnan, james hyman,  
danny mcmillan]

TUNE OF THE WEEK



UNDERWORLD 'KING OF SNAKE' (JUNIOR BOYS OWN) (TECHNO)

Inspired by Karl Hyde's experience of an illegal snake fight in Tokyo and debuted early last year at the Heavenly Jukebox, this slice of charged euphoria is driven along by 'King of Snake's' stuttered, bullet-train paced breakbeats and a furious hi-NRG rasping synth akin to a Bobby O'Giorgio Moroder production. Dave Angel's rework with his hissing intro equally maintains the relentless exciting repetition and Dave Clarke's remix slithers around a "Many fazes/I'm hip"-type sped-up break with a "Drink and you go pink" hook. Even at promo stage, this shot onto Radio One's B-list and just like Daft Punk's 'Revolution 909' there is clear proof that looped hypnotic grooves can remain 'underground' even when they hit the most commercial of peaks. ●●●●● JH

GREECE 2000 'THREE DRIVES' (HOJO CHOONS) (HOUSE)

A firm favourite of 1998 that was being played throughout the year gets a well-deserved second run. The original lead line main hook features prominently in these new mixes, the pick of which is the Miro version which runs the track at a slower pace and introduces a ghostly male vocal throughout. Matt Darey in his Lost Tribe guise combines his own version with the Miro mix, creating a more balmy sound which was showcased early on the 'Gatecrasher' compilation. It's probably the best of all the mixes, not only on this package but from the previous ones as well. ●●●●● CF

MUTINY FEAT. MARY JOY 'BLISS' (SUNFLOWER) (HOUSE)

The Masters At Work liked this Dylan 'Earl' Barnes production from 1996 so much that they approached the South London indie label about doing some remixes. Their lush MAW Main Mix sets off Mary Joy's sweet soulful vocals with solid beats and extra-smooth sax, strings, guitar and piano themes, while their stripped-down MAW Vocal Dub is a deep and driving take that sensibly keeps the song intact. The double-pack also features the chunky and busy original mix and inventive Latin-flavoured versions from the Rhythm Doctor. ●●●●● AB

PAUL VAN DYK PRESENTS HUMATE 'LOVE STIMULATION' (DEVIANT) (HOUSE)



PAUL VAN DYK

A track which was originally a classic on the German MFS label back in 1992 – and has been a constant favourite for many DJs ever since – now gets an official UK release. The original mix is featured, along with mixes from Oliver Lieb and Blank & Jones. It is, however, Paul

Van Dyk who soothingly retouches the original to bring it up to date without losing any of the dreamy lush synths and heavenly female vocals, polishing things up wonderfully. ●●●●● CF



LUCID

LUCID 'CRAZY' (DELIRIOUS/FFRR) (HOUSE)

Lucid follow their Top 10 hit "I Can't Help Myself" with another strong release. The Translucid versions play first, having already obtained extensive radio and club support, using another powerful distorted vocal and combining it with built-up strings and big synth stabs in the main bits. Nalin & Kane provide two underground versions, running the vocal in a more subdued manner over a different progressive arrangement. Another strong club and national chart contender. ●●●●● CF

VARIOUS 'OLD SCHOOL VS NEW SCHOOL (JIVE ELECTRO) (ALTERNATIVE)

In similar style to Tommy Boy's 'Greatest Beats' where healthy back catalogue was given up to top current remixer, Jive's new imprint has unleashed four remix 12-inches. There's only space here to list them rather than review: Aphrodite tackles A Tribe Called Quest's '1nce Again'; Grooverider revamps Stone Roses' 'Fool's Gold'; and the Freestylers rekindle Whodini's 'Magic Wand', the latter already familiar to those aware of 'FSUK 2'. DJ Icey, Norman Cook and Bassbin Twins also get their teeth into Jive classics, all are on date to perfection by both remixers and the A&R department. ●●●●● JH

THE SONGSTRESS 'SEE LINE WOMAN' (LOCKED ON) (GARAGE)

First released on Ibadan, this Nina Simone sampling production from Kerri Chandler and Jerome Sydenham was one of last year's essential US import buys. Their original version still stands out on this UK double-pack with its super-cool keys, free-flowing flute and reverentially handled vocals. Todd Edwards comes close with his typically choppy interpretation, while Charles Webster takes things deeper in his Presence piece. The track's crossover potential is increased considerably by Full Intentions's thumping remixes which are a bit heavy handed but have plenty of mainstream club appeal. ●●●●● AB

THE FREAKAZOIDS '@TIC FUTURE' (ZOID) (BREAKS)

A bit of a cheeky homage to 'Planet Rock' which has been done extremely well (better than the commissioned mixes that appeared before the New Year). The boys build up a solid 608 groove with scratches aplenty along with analogue synth washes and the trusty vocoder voice snatches. It's all good harmless fun. ●●●●● DM

HANDS BURN 'GOOD SHOT' (SPOT ON) (HOUSE)

Seb Fontaine's superbly simple pumping instrumental piece is running amok. The main intro is a looped protruding bassline which gets backing in stages from the percussion levels, interrupted only briefly by an electro warble, before heading off again to a naggingly infectious single piano riff. ●●●●● CF

T POWER 'FUNK DENTAL HYGENE' (BOTCHIT & SCARPER) (BREAKS)

This former S.O.U.R. recording artist noted for his contribution to the drum & bass sub-genre, tech-step, returns after a two-year absence with two classy breakbeat cuts. 'Funk Dental Hygiene' is a drum & bass-infused track with sub-bass and swinging effects. On the flip 'Who Gives A Funk' heads into the P-Funk era. I'm sure George Clinton would give his blessing. ●●●●● DM

1 PRAIS (Ladysmith)

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3 YOU SHOULD

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16  
January  
1999

THE OFFICIAL CHARTS

16  
January  
1999

the **TOP 40** **UK** **16.01.99**

Compiled by the Official Charts Company from sales data from 1000+ retailers - see 0175 280 2411

Pos	Wk	Title	Artist	Label
1	14	EX-FACTOR/LDST ONES	Lauryn Hill	Ruthless/Columbia
2	NEW	HOLD IT DOWN/KUCIT, PURE	Big Daddy Kane	Blak Jam
3	NEW	MY LOVE IS YOUR LOVE (LP)	Wilhelm Mustrak	Arista
4	4	I WANT YOU FOR MYSELF/GIRL, WHAT YOU WANNA DO	Junior Level feat. Chopsquat Kilah/Shela Ann	Northwestside
5	3	WESTSIDE	TO	Clockwork Entertainment/Epic
6	NEW	SILLY HO	TLC	LaFace
7	NEW	RUSH	Kidzday	Jive
8	16	ENJOY YOURSELF/FAP TOP NEW YORK	Kedar/Junior	Kedar/Junior
9	2	NOBODY ELSE	Tyrese	RCA
10	5	GIMME SOME MORE/TEAR THE ROOF	Gusta Rhymus	Elektra
11	29	IT'S A PARTY	Bonny Akiller	Blak Jam
12	NEW	GROWING UP MEMORIES/DO'NT TEST	Black 'n' Blue	Pan
13	18	IMPROVISE	Jarvis & 5	Columbia
14	6	MY LITTLE SECRET	Xscape	East West
15	12	GET ON THE BUS	Dreway's Child	Del Jam
16	NEW	I'LL BE DAT	Ridin'	Del Jam
17	NEW	BETCHA CAN'T WAIT	E-17	Talstar
18	10	THE LOVERS EP	Dessert Eagle Discs	Boiler House
19	NEW	ULTIMATE LOVE	Hercia More	Sledge
20	9	I CAN'T SEE	Insoul feat. Cam'ron	Gold Mind/East West
21	17	PASSION	Elite	VC Recordings
22	NEW	WHAT'S SO DIFFERENT	Gunsuine	SSO Music
23	NEW	ALL I ASK/PROMOTION	DJ Clue	Del Jam
24	NEW	LOVE LIKE THIS	Bea & Christian feat. Weba	Grand Central
25	13	LOVE LIKE THIS	Faith Evans	Bad Boy
26	7	HARD KNOCK LIFE	Jay-Z	Northwestside
27	31	SEX MONEY & DRUGS	Big Punisher feat. Neci	Immortal
28	4	MIGHTY HEALTHY	Chopsquat Kilah	Sony
29	15	IT'S ALL YOURS	MC Life feat. Gina Thompson	East West
30	3	DO YOU FEEL...	Men Of Vision	BLA/Epic
31	27	SPELLBOUND	Rae & Christian	Grand Central
32	25	IF YOU NEED A MAN	Baron	Rolling
33	5	SWEETHEART	JD feat. Mariah Carey	So So Def/Columbia
34	22	WHO LOVES YOU EP	Kashif	Expansion
35	22	BOY YOU KNOCK ME OUT	Talyana Ali	BLA/Epic
36	NEW	TOUCH ME	Solo	BLA/Epic
37	8	MISSING YOU	Mohib W Real	Talstar
38	NEW	MORE THAN YOU KNOW	Prince Paul & De La Soul	Tommy Boy
39	23	END OF THE LINE	Honey	1st Avenue/Mercury
40	30	MIAMI	Will Smith	Columbia

**[commentary]**  
by Tony Farrelles

Good to be back and the strength of our first chart makes you think 1999 is going to be a good year... It's also to be a number one with 'Ex-Factor', which was my personal favourite from her album. Mixes are on the way, including a UK one awaiting approval... Well done to Blak Jam for picking up **BIG DADDY KANE'S** 'Hold It Down', which enters straight in at number two in our chart.

The Kane was in London over the holiday period for a gig with various members of the old Cold Chisel/Jules crew. Fellow Blak Jam old **BLAK THANG** enter at number 12 with 'Growing Up Memories', the follow-up to their recent Lynden David Hall collaboration... **ANOTHER LEVEL** are firmly back on track, with help from the Ignorants crew seeing them stay put at number four... **TLC** make their very first appearance in our chart after what seems like an eternity since their last album. The Dallas Austin-produced 'Silly Ho' has a distinct Timbaland feel to it, and will only be available on promo. The first single from the new album 'Fan Mail' will be 'No Scrubs', produced by a newcomer called Shakespear... **LEFESHAK** go straight in at seven with their second single 'Rush' on Jive... Lots of fuss being made about the 'I Enjoy Yourself', which has been hastily added to playlists everywhere. Sampling Walter Murphy's 'Fifth Of Beethoven' from Saturday Night Fever, people are talking about it as a new 'Ghetto Supastar'. We shall wait and see.



the **TOP 40** **UK** **16.01.99**

Compiled by the Official Charts Company from sales data from 1000+ retailers - see 0175 280 2411

Pos	Wk	Title	Artist	Label
1	NEW	(YOU GOT ME) BURNING UP	Cavin Fisher feat. Loleita Holloway	Wunderbar
2	6	GIVEN UP	Mingie Ball	Multiple
3	6	KNOCK ON WOOD	Mary Griffin	Carb/The Hit Label
4	NEW	FROM THIS MOMENT ON	Shania Twain	Mercy
5	NEW	EVERYONE'S A WINNER	Electrochique	Fresh
6	11	BODY	Foxy Brown Dops	Twisted UK
7	8	I WANT YOU FOR MYSELF	Another Level feat. Chopsquat Kilah	Northwestside
8	2	MADNESS THING	Leizani	ZTT
9	NEW	TRANSVIC	Wired	Future Grove
10	NEW	STRONG ENOUGH	Che	WEA
11	33	THIS PARTY SUCKS!	Fused	Downboy/Columbia
12	NEW	EURO XPRESS SAMPLER	Various	Kixone
13	NEW	DO'NT STOP THE TRAIN '99	Phyllis Nelson	Almighty
14	NEW	ONLY YOU	Casino	Powl
15	NEW	THREE DRIVES	Euroz 2000	Hoo! Chooz
16	NEW	GAZY	Lucid	Delirious/Tr
17	NEW	HAZEL	Loop Da Loop	Manitara
18	NEW	ISSO	Paradox feat. Devarah	Kixone
19	NEW	I WANNA BE FREE	Minty	Virgin
20	17	YOU SHOULD BE...	Blocstar	Sound Of Music/
21	4	WAKALEO	Homats	Uno Ministry/Epic
22	22	LET THE MUSIC PLAY	Beat Box feat. Raul	Coalition
23	NEW	RAISE YOUR HANDS	Big Room Girl feat. Darryl Pandey	Junior Boy's Own/NC Recordings
24	NEW	THANK U	Level II	Eurezone
25	5	MORE THAN THIS	Emmie	Indirect/Manitara
26	NEW	WHEN YOU'RE GONE/BREAKFAST AT TIFFANY'S	Jackie O'	Explosive
27	29	GOOD RHYMES	Da Click	Mr
28	NEW	WHAT U DO	Colours feat. Stephen Emmanuel & Eska	Ice Cream/Intern
29	5	AND YOU DON'T STOP	Sneekie & Topay	Freecrest/Thermal
30	23	I'M YOUR ANGEL	Rochelle	Delirious
31	24	SHE WANTS YOU	Bilbie	Innocent
32	26	BAD GIRLS LIKE	Juliet Roberts	Delirious
33	7	THE BEST OF M PEOPLE REMIXED	M People	M People
34	14	GOOD LIFE (JESHA WIDA)	Newer City	FRAS
35	NEW	FLASH	The Grifters	Duty Free
36	NEW	SEE LINE WOMAN	Songstress	Locked On/XL Recordings
37	NEW	CAN'T GET ENOUGH	Soul Searchers	Soulicric
38	12	DANCE YOURSELF (BUZZY)	Sonya UK	Award
39	37	TRAGEDY	Slops	live
40	15	I WANT YOU	Savage Garden	Columbia

**[commentary]**  
by Alan Jones

Of all our charts, the one which becomes most stagnant over Christmas - when we actually produced a chart for all but one of the weeks we didn't publish - was the Pop Top chart. But the wind of change blows through it in spectacular fashion this week, with half of last week's Top 40 wiped out at a stroke, and a similar number of newcomers breezing into town.

The champ is **BURNING FISHER'S** 'You Got Me' featuring 'Up' - but I wouldn't bet on it repeating the feat. It is already under severe pressure, with the cheesy disco-house of **MINGIE BALL'S** 'Given Up' close behind and showing little sign of lifting after six weeks in the Top Five. **MARY GRIFFIN'S** similarly styled 'Knock On Wood' climbs 6-3. Also looking to be a threat is 'Everyone's A Winner', by **ELECTROCHIQUE**, which includes generous helpings of Hot Chocolate's identically titled chart topper in the form of melody and guitar samples. **ERROL BROWN'S** vocal has been replaced with a vocoder track, and its familiar elements with big beat styling are working wonders on dancefloors... Talking of vocoders, **CHER'S** back, though this time she's playing no electronic gimmickery. Her upcoming single 'Strong Enough' debuts at number 10, and is sure to keep the floor lit, though it is actually far inferior to 'Believe'. It's not out yet for another five weeks but has replaced its illustrious predecessor on so many DJ's chart returns that it has hustled it out of the Top 40. But which one will DJ's be playing in five years' time, I wonder?



1 **1 PRAIS** (radio Slim)

2 **2 HEARTBEAT**

3 **3 YOU SHOULD**

4 **4 CHOCOLATE**

5 **5 GOODBYES**

6 **6 WHEN YOU'**

7 **7 BELIEVE CH**

8 **8 RESCUE ME**

9 **9 END OF THE**

10 **10 UP TO THE**

11 **11 OVER YOU**

12 **12 MIAMI WILL**

13 **13 BIG BIG WO**

14 **14 GOOD RHYM**

15 **15 TO YOU IBE**

16 **16 ESPECIALLY**

17 **17 I LOVE THE**

18 **18 UP AND DO'**

19 **19 ALWAYS HA**

Few DJs can have started DJing professionally as young as New Jersey-ite Kerri Chandler – he was only nine when he first took to the decks. Unsurprisingly he's been very influential in the garage scene, producing remixes and productions for the likes of Strictly Rhythm, King Street, NiteGrooves and the majors, as well as for his own label Madhouse, but he's fussy – he turned down remixes for Enigma and Michael Jackson!

# JOCK

kerri chandler

## ON HIS BOX

PIC: GP

### top[10]

#### 'CAN YOU FEEL IT' MR FINGERS (TRAX)

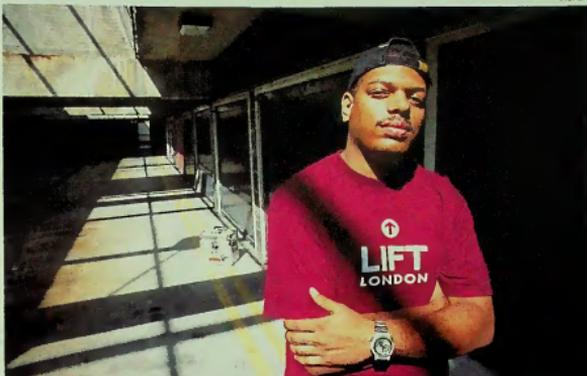
"It actually reminds of the first time I played – it really influences me. The vibe of the record fitted so well at the time, and it still does. When I play it now it brings back memories. If I get the chance, if the crowd are up for it, I'll drop it."

#### 'EXPANSIONS' LONNIE LISTON SMITH (FLYING DUTCHMAN)

"I first heard this when I was about 12 or 13 and it reminds me of growing up. It was when I heard this I knew I wanted to do music. I heard it last night at the 533 Club and the crowd were really into it. I had a great time last night, the vibe that this club is really nice."

#### 'KNEE DEEP' FUNKADELIC (WARNER BROS)

"The first time I heard this was on my friend's mother's mad and amazing audio system. I've never heard a sound like that ever. Sonically, it was like something out of a spaceship. I've never seen a turntable like it – and it had a remote control. When I play this record now people think 'We're going to have fun now!' You can mix it with funky stuff or jazzy stuff."



#### 'CATCH ME ON THE REBOUND (UNRELEASED WALTER GIBBONS MIX)' LOLEATTA HOLLOWAY (SALSOU)

"This has Loleatta Holloway on it. I got it from my dad who is also a DJ. He has all these weird promos and things. Masters At Work have remixed it again recently. It was so ahead of its time, so much so that at the time it must have sounded really weird. Now it sounds perfect. The other mixes are good but the mixes Walter did are the best. You can play it anywhere. It's a really cool track. It's got the wickedest drums and breakdowns. Anybody who knows this track says the same."

#### 'LET'S START TO DANCE' BOHANNON (MERCURY)

"I actually start with this track sometimes and it gets people crazy. Every time I play it people come up after and say they are glad I played it. There's a bootleg floating around with all these edits which is really cool. I like the original but I like the bootleg better. It's amazing, really good edits."

#### 'LOVE INJECTION' TRUSSEL (ELEKTRA)

"This is the same kind of thing as 'Love Has Come Around', it's downtempo. The bass is like 'Oh My God!' The first time I heard it I thought 'I've got to know how to do this!'"

#### 'NUMBERS' KRAFTWERK (WARNER BROS)

"The first time I heard this I knew I wanted to be a sound engineer. I'd never heard anyone pull those sounds and I knew I wanted to figure it all out. I like the channel separation and effects they use. This was a turning point in my life."

#### 'DISCO CIRCUIS' MARTIN 'DISCO'

"This came out in 1977 and again it's a track that is so ahead of its time. People still go mad for it. They chopped it and moved it, it's an amazing song the way they put it together. All the sounds are so different and they haven't made anything else like it. They tried, but it was like a bad remake of this song!"

#### 'LOVE HAS COME AROUND' DONALD BYRD (ELEKTRA)

"Sonically and technically this track and its arrangements are fantastic. It came out in 1978 and it was way ahead of its time. Now you can play it against anything. It's well produced and bass-heavy and the drums are tight so it sounds like 118 bpm. It's quite downtempo, around 118 bpm."

### KERRI'S STEAMIN' 10

- 1 'SOMEONE TO LOVE ME' Sebastic feat. The G-Man (promo)
- 2 'DJ TODDS EP' (Ibexan)
- 3 'SOUL SPECTRUM LP' Various (BBE)
- 4 'GOT THE BUG' Buggea Solitare (Sire)
- 5 'ON & ON' Harrison Cramp (Nepetal)
- 6 'HIGHER LOVE' Bryan Chambers (Klub 200)
- 7 'B'ENG B'ENG' Femi Kuti (Barclay)
- 8 'FREAK IT' Studio 45 (Azuhi)
- 9 'HOT SAUCE LP' Various (Chili Funk)
- 10 'CROSS SECTION COLLECTIVE LP' Various (Cross Section)

#### 'DINDADA' GEORGE KRANTZ (PERSONAL)

"This came out around 1980 or 1981 and it's like an ice-breaker. If you come into a club and the crowd is half dead, you put this on and they are like 'Oh My God!' It's such a different kind of record, soulful and innovative. It breaks the ice big time. If you want to get people wired, this does it. The build-up is insane. It's been done over and over the ice over again. Every year sees another remake of it. It's one of those tracks that you know as soon as you hear it."

[COMPILED BY SARAH DAVIS. TEL: 0181-948 2300]

BORN: New Jersey, September 29, 1969. LIFE BEFORE DJING: Travel agent. FIRST DJ GIG: "My dad is a DJ and I'd watch him closely and when I was about nine or 10 I started using his stuff. He didn't know, but he caught me when I had to change the belt on the turntable and it got stuck. He said 'I couldn't mix her I'd whip me. But I could. He was stunned and that weekend he took me to the club with him and after that I started to open for him.'" MOST MEMORABLE GIG: "My birthday at Yellow in Tokyo. They gave me an unbelievable birthday party, it went on and on and on. Everyone was so hyped and there was really mad stuff going on." FAVORITE CLUBS: Yellow and OOP in Tokyo; Sub Club, Glasgow, Manor, Bournemouth, Body and Soul, New York; Layards, Paris NEXT THREE GIGS: The Rex Club, Paris (January 14); Club New York, Switzerland (29); Stereo Madhouse party at the Winter Music Conference, Miami (March 13). DJ TRADEMARK: "Being very eclectic." LIFE OUTSIDE DJING: "After one singles – 'Kerri Chandler's 'Emmy Prizes' out on Madhouse and The Good Reverend Dr Gary Henry 'Fall' out on Slero." "I'm also doing a project with the Blue Hole with people like Ray Parks and Bobbi Humphrey. It's a straight jazz project – I play jazz piano and bass. I'm a serious computer geek and have been doing it since 1997. I used to work with a friend who now works for the Pentagon. I also have a label, Madhouse, and a two-year-old daughter called Kerri."

### [lev]

- |    |    |          |          |
|----|----|----------|----------|
| 10 | 20 | 1999     | Prince   |
| 16 | 21 | DISCO    | BABE     |
| 16 | 22 | NO       | REGRETS  |
| 19 | 23 | WHEN     | YOU B    |
| 21 | 24 | TAKE     | ME THER  |
| 15 | 25 | HARD     | KNOCK    |
| 20 | 26 | GIRLS    | NIGHT    |
| 25 | 27 | RIGHT    | HERE     |
| 28 | 28 | DON'T    | LET T    |
| 18 | 29 | GOOD     | MORN     |
| 24 | 30 | POSTCARD | FR       |
| 14 | 31 | SHE      | WANTS    |
| 27 | 32 | I        | WANT YOU |
| 26 | 33 | I'M      | YOUR AN  |
| 29 | 34 | WISH     | I WERE   |
| 22 | 35 | WILD     | WOOD     |
| 23 | 36 | WAR      | OF NER   |
| 34 | 37 | SO       | YOUNG T  |
| 18 | 38 | NO       | GOOD Da  |
| 31 | 39 | MOVE     | MANU     |
| 40 | 40 | THE      | EVERLAS  |

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17	20	BELIEVE	Cher
21	21	HITS	Phil Collins
22	22	FORGIVEN, NOT FORGOTTEN	The Corrs
29	23	UP REM!	Warner Brothers
25	24	MODERN CLASSICS - THE GREATEST HITS	Paul Weller
24	25	THE BEST OF - THE STAR AND WASEMAN	Jay Z
23	26	THE MASTERPLAN	Oasis
45	27	JANE MCDONALD	Jane McDonald
43	28	THE MISEDUCATION OF LAURYN HILL	Lauryn Hill
33	29	INTERNATIONAL VELVET	Catriona
26	30	LET'S TALK ABOUT LOVE	Deline Dion
30	31	GREATEST MOMENTS	Culture Club
34	32	VERSION 2.0	Garbage
28	33	SONGS FROM 'ALLY MCBEAL'	Yonda Shepard
31	34	ANOTHER LEVEL	Another Level
27	35	GREATEST	Duran Duran
20	36	HONEY TO THE B	Billie
52	37	MEZZANINE	Massive Attack
32	38	THE VERY BEST OF Meat Loaf	Meat Loaf
35	39	VOICE OF AN ANGEL	Charlotte Church
47	40	THE BEST OF James	James

10	20	1999	Prince
21	21	DISCO BABES FROM OUTER SPACE	Babe Instruct
16	22	NO REGRETS	Robbie Williams
19	23	WHEN YOU BELIEVE	Maniah Carey & Whitney Houston
21	24	TAKE ME THERE	Blackstreet & Mya feat. Mase & Blinky Blink
15	25	HARD KNOCK LIFE (GHETTO ANTHEM)	Jay Z
20	26	GIRLS NIGHT OUT	Alda
25	27	RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW	Fierce
28	28	DON'T LET THIS MOMENT END	Gloria Estefan
18	29	GOOD MORNING SUNSHINE	Aqua
24	30	POSTCARD FROM HEAVEN	Lighthouse Family
14	31	SHE WANTS YOU	Billie
27	32	I WANT YOU '98	Savage Garden
26	33	I'M YOUR ANGEL	Deline Dion & R. Kelly
29	34	WISH I WERE YOU	Alisha's Attic
22	35	WILD WOOD	Paul Weller
23	36	WAR OF NERVES	All Saints
34	37	SO YOUNG	The Corrs
138	38	NO GOOD DA FOOL	Da Fool
31	39	MOVE MANIA	Sash! featuring Shannon
40	40	THE EVERLASTING	Manic Street Preachers



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# compilations

1	1	NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC! 41	14	11	THE ALL TIME GREATEST LOVE SONGS - II
2	2	HITS '99	11	12	THE GREATEST HITS OF 1988
3	3	CHEF AID - THE SOUTH PARK ALBUM	13	13	KISS ANTHEMS '98
4	4	THE ANNUAL IV - JUDGE JULES & 307 GEORGE	15	14	PEE TONE! FALL OVERGROWN - ESSENTIAL '98
5	5	STREET VIBES 2	16	15	HEARTBEAT - THE '60'S GOLD COLLECTION
6	6	THE BOX R&B HITS ALBUM	17	16	FUNKY DIVAS 2
7	7	MUSIC OF THE NIGHT	18	17	HUGE HITS 1998
8	8	THE VERY BEST OF THE LOVE ALBUM	9	18	SMASH HITS '99!
9	9	WOMAN	10	19	ESSENTIAL SELECTION '98 - TONIGHT/NEOWILD
10	10	MASSIVE DANCE '99	11	20	THE ALL TIME GREATEST MOVIE SONGS

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# CHART COMMENTARY

by ALAN JONES



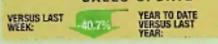
After eight weeks atop the album chart, Ladies & Gentlemen – The Best Of George Michael slips to number two this week, allowing **Robbie Williams** I've Been Expecting You to return to the summit. Sales of both albums are a mere fraction of their recent heady levels. Ladies & Gentlemen selling 37,300 and I've Been Expecting You a little over 39,000 last week.

With Life Thru A Lens up 11-10, albums by Williams booked the Top 10, making him the first male soloist to have simultaneous Top 10 albums since September 1993, when **Prince** had three entries, with The Hits/The B Sides, The Hits 1 and The Hits 2 all occupying chart space. The last artist to do it with regular releases was Bruce Springsteen, whose simultaneously released Human Touch and Lucky Town held down the top two places in April 1992. Williams' achievement is arguably

## MARKET REPORT



### SALES UPDATE



superior to that, as both of his albums have sold well over a million copies already and Life Thru A Lens is 67 weeks old.

With Talk On Corners having sold very nearly 1.8m copies in the UK, and its predecessor Forgiven, Not Forgotten a more modest 250,000, Warner Music is turning its attention to maximising the potential of the latter album, which dates back to 1996. The original Home for their current hit single So Young, before it was remixed and added to Talk On Corners, it soars 93-22 this week, with sales of more than 10,000. Talk On

## ALBUM FACTFILE

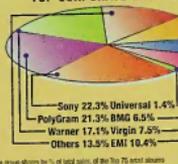
Corners was, as reported elsewhere in this week's issue, the biggest selling album of 1998, while Forgiven, Not Forgotten was ranked 89th, having sold nearly 133,000 copies in the year. As well as So Young, it includes several other tracks which have become firm favourites, including Closer, Heaven Knows, Someday and Runaway – the latter track being the group's only hit on America's Hot 100 chart to date.

Attack, up 52-37, and Gomez (60-42) do so with declining sales.

Aside from the Corners' Forgiven, Not Forgotten, the only album in the Top 75 to increase its sales is The Offspring, whose Americana album surges 85-51 on a 22% improvement. The album's only previous appearance in the Top 75 came on 28 November, when it debuted in anchor position. Its revival is due to the attention being given by radio – especially Radio One – to the band's upcoming, and rather atypical single Pretty Fly (For A White Guy), which is currently number one in Australia and number two in Sweden. Pretty Fly is responsible for the album's 82 move on America's Top 200 chart this week.

Radio is also the reason why Busta Rhymes' album Extinction Level Event/Final World Frontier makes the Top 75 at the single Gimme Some More is being picked up airplay with great rapidity.

## TOP CORPORATE GROUPS



### PERCENTAGE OF UK ACTS IN THE CHART



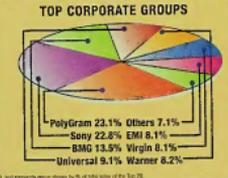
Artist album sales plunge by 41% this week, with the result that even Jane McDonald, who moves 45-27, Massive

## COMPILATIONS

Ten years ago this very week, the compilation chart came into existence, largely as a result of the dominance of the combined chart by the Now That's What I Call Music series, which had accumulated 61 weeks atop the chart in the previous five years, and deprived many worthy artist albums of the chance of being number one. Ten years ago, Now That's What I Call Music 13 was the very first compilation chart topper. This week, Now That's What I Call Music 41 tops the compilation chart for the 41st week in a row – but it is weakening rapidly, and will be hard pressed to equal the nine week run at number one enjoyed by Now 29, the current series record holder. Now 41, bringing 24,000 copies last week, sold its total sales to 1,038,000. Hits 99, meanwhile, enjoyed its fifth straight week in runners-up

position, selling a further 20,000 copies to improve its overall tally to 438,000. There is no movement at all in the top four, though Street Vibe 2 makes a creditable debut at number five. The only new album in the Top 50, the Warner/Global TV/Sony TV compilation is a follow-up to last summer's Street Vibe, which sold 70,000 copies, good enough to make it the 95th biggest selling compilation of 1998. Street Vibe 2 sold just under 10,000 copies last week, and includes Jay-Z's Hard Knock Life, Usher's You Make Me Wanna, Lutricia McNeal's Stranded and 37 other urban hits – the first two tracks appearing on a compilation for the first time, apparently. The similarly-themed Box R&B Hits album, which was last week's highest new entry at number six, slips a place to seventh.

## MARKET REPORT



### SALES UPDATE



### COMPILATIONS' SHARE OF TOTAL SALES

Artist albums: 76.4%  
Compilations: 23.6%

## THE YEAR SO FAR...

### TOP 20 ALBUMS

1	I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU	ROBBIE WILLIAMS	CHRYSLIS
2	LADIES & GENTLEMEN - THE BEST OF	GEORGE MICHAEL	EPIC
3	TALK ON CORNERS	CORRS	ATLANTIC
4	STEP ONE	STEPS	ESOLUNO
5	WHERE WE BELONG	BOYZONE	POYCOR
6	YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY, BABY	HATYUJUM	SKINT
7	RAY OF LIGHT	MADONNA	MAVERICK
8	THE BEST OF 1980-1990	U2	ISLAND
9	THE BEST OF	M PEOPLE	M PEOPLE
10	LIFE THRU A LENS	ROBBIE WILLIAMS	CHRYSLIS
11	ONE NIGHT ONLY	BEBE REKS	CHRYSLIS
12	#1's	MARSHAN CAREY	COLUMBIA
13	#WITCHED	#WITCHED	GLOW WORM/EPIC
14	THIS IS MY TRUTH TELL ME YOURS	MANIC STREET PREACHERS	EPIC
15	SAVAGE GARDEN	SAVAGE GARDEN	COLUMBIA
16	BIG WILLIE STYLE	WILL SMITH	COLUMBIA
17	QUENCH	SEAL/TESS SCOTH	GO! DISC/MERCURY
18	SUPPOSED FORMER INFATUATION JUNKIE	ALANIS MORISSETTE	MAVERICK
19	FIVE	FIVE	RCA
20	BEHAVE	CHER	WEA

## THE YEAR SO FAR...

### TOP 20 COMPILATIONS

1	NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC 41	VARIOUS ARTISTS	EMI/VIRGIN/POLYGRAM
2	HITS 99	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WARNER/GLOBAL/SONY TV
3	CHEF AID - THE SOUTH PARK BOYS	VARIOUS ARTISTS	COLUMBIA
4	THE ANNUAL '99 - JUDGE JURY & BARK GEORGE	VARIOUS ARTISTS	MINISTRY OF SOUND
5	STREET VIBE 2	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WARNER/GLOBAL/SONY TV
6	THE BOX R&B HITS ALBUM	VARIOUS ARTISTS	TELSTAR TV
7	MUSIC OF THE NIGHT	VARIOUS ARTISTS	POLYGRAM TV
8	THE VERY BEST OF THE LOVE ALBUM	VARIOUS ARTISTS	VIRGIN/EMI
9	WOMAN	VARIOUS ARTISTS	SONY TV/POLYGRAM TV
10	MASSIVE DANCE '98	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WARNER/POLYGRAM TV
11	THE ALL TIME GREATEST LOVE SONGS - III	VARIOUS ARTISTS	COLUMBIA
12	THE GREATEST HITS OF 1998	VARIOUS ARTISTS	TELSTAR TV
13	KISS ANTHEMS '86	VARIOUS ARTISTS	POLYGRAM TV
14	ESSENTIAL SILENCE '88 - TONG/DAKENFELD	VARIOUS ARTISTS	FRFR
15	HEARTBEAT - THE '85 GOLD COLLECTION	VARIOUS ARTISTS	RCR/GLOBAL TV
16	FUNNY DREAMS 2	VARIOUS ARTISTS	GLOBAL TELEVISION
17	ESSENTIAL SILENCE '88 - TONG/DAKENFELD	VARIOUS ARTISTS	FRFR
18	HUGE HITS 1998	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WARNER/GLOBAL/SONY TV
19	SMASH HITS 98!	VARIOUS ARTISTS	VIRGIN/EMI
20	THE ALL TIME GREATEST MOVIE SONGS	VARIOUS ARTISTS	SONY TV/POLYGRAM TV



# THE OFFICIAL UK CHARTS SPECIALIST



16 JANUARY 1999

## CLASSICAL SPECIALIST

This	Title	Artist	Label (distributor)
1	VOICE OF AN ANGEL	Choralos Church	Sony Classical SK 60957 (SMI)
2	WORLDES BLYSSE	Medievalave	Ventura CDVE 941 (E)
3	THE 3 TENDERS IN PARIS	Carerena/Domingo/Pavarotti/Levine	Decca D959002 (F)
4	RITTERREQUEM	King's College Choir/Debury	EMI Classics CDC 566692 (E)
5	THE PURE VOICE OF...	Vincenty-Mae	Decca 4608832 (F)
6	THE ORIGINAL FOUR SEASONS	Nancy-Mae	EMI BRUNNEN (E)
7	ARIA - THE OPERA ALBUM	Andrea Bocelli	Philips 462334 (F)
8	SANT SAENS: CARNIVAL OF ANIMALS	Morise	Naxos AudioBooks 854443 (WS)
9	THE FINZLAINEN CONCERTO	Piine/Norlanti	Naxos 852536 (S)
10	VIVALDI: STABAT MATER	Scholi/Ensemble 415/Barchini	Harmonia Mundi HMC019171 (HM)
11	RAJTAWARAJANANTH ARCTICUS	Royal Scottish Nat OrkLntu	Naxos 854414 (F)
12	VOICES FROM HEAVEN	Santa Cecilia Nat AC OrkCheng	Naxos 8563879 (S)
13	ELGAR:FALSTAFF - SYMPHONIC STUDY	English Northern Philh/Lukas	Naxos 8564179 (S)
14	SALVA NOS	Medievalis Barbes	Ventura/Virgin GDE 835 (E)
15	A SOPRANO INSPIRED	Lesley Garrett	Conifer Classics 356051232 (BMG)
16	PROKOFIEV: PETER & THE WOLF	Dame Edna/Mel SO/Lanchy	Naxos 8544179 (S)
17	PREINER: REQUIEM FOR MY FRIEND	Sinfonia Varsovia/Kaspzyk	Virgin 298821462 (V)
18	THE CLASSICAL ALBUM 1	Minna Tavel	EMI Classical 955292 (E)
19	HAYDN: STRING QUARTETS	Kuday Quartet	Naxos 8563953 (S)
20	AGNUS DEI	ChC Oxford/Higginbottom	Erato 0618014642 (W)

## CLASSICAL CROSSOVER

This	Title	Artist	Label (distributor)
1	TITANIC (OST)	James Horner	Sony Classical SK 62313 (SM)
2	MOST RELAXING CLASSICAL ALBUM...EVER!	Various	Virgin/EMI VTDCC 207 (E)
3	LESLEY GARRETT	Lesley Garrett	BBC/BMG Conifer 356051232 (BMG)
4	BACK TO TITANIC	James Horner	Sony Classical SK 60691 (SM)
5	THE ONLY CLASSICAL ALBUM YOU'LL EVER NEED	Various	Conifer Classics 356051232 (BMG)
6	BRAVEHEART (OST)	LSO/Horner	Decca 460882 (F)
7	A SOPRANO IN LOVE	Lesley Garrett	Silva Screen SILKTYCA 4 (V)
8	MOST RELAXING CLASSICAL ALBUM...EVER!	Various	Virgin/EMI VTDCC 155 (E)
9	SIMPLY THE BEST CLASSICAL ANTHEMS	Various	warnersmp 358425442 (W)
10	DESERT ISLAND DISCS	Various	BBC Worldwide Music WMF0 0267 (P)
11	100 ROMANTIC CLASSICS	Various	Castle Music PBXCD 556 (P)
12	IF ONLY YOU'D LEAVE YOU	Bryn Terfel	Deutsche Grammophon 4576302 (E)
13	ADENIUM III - DANCES OF TIME	Karl Jenkins	Virgin COVE 940 (E)
14	BEST CLASSICAL ALBUM IN THE WORLD...EVER!	Various	EMI CDEM7D 10 (E)
15	100 POPULAR CLASSICS	Various	Castle Communication MBSCD 517 (BMG)
16	GREATEST PUCCHINI SHOW ON EARTH	Various	Decca 460892 (F)
17	THE GREAT PANIS OF 20TH CENTURY - SAMPLES	Various	Philips 462892 (F)
18	BRASSFUL (OST)	Gimthorpe Colliery Band	RCA Victor 9266287152 (BMG)
19	100 POPULAR CLASSICS - VOLUME TWO	Various	Castle Music PBXCD 555 (P)
20	ULTIMATE CLASSICAL COLLECTION	Various	EMI CDTES01007 (EUK)

## JAZZ & BLUES

This	Title	Artist	Label (distributor)
1	KIND OF BLUE	Miles Davis	Columbia CK 6455 (SM)
2	VERY BEST OF JAZZ AFTER DARK	Various Artists	Global Television RADCC011 (BMG)
3	THE BEST OF LATIN JAZZ	Various	Global Television RADCD 96 (BMG)
4	BLUE FOR YOU - THE VERY BEST OF	Nina Simone	Global Television RADCD 84 (BMG)
5	NYOJRICAN SOUL	Nuyorican Soul	Talkin Loud USA022 (F)
6	SKETCHES OF SPAIN	Miles Davis	ECM 550662 (P)
7	RITZ	Janis Garbarek	Virgin VTDCC 51 (E)
8	THE BEST JAZZ...EVER!	Various	Columbia SRCB3163 (SM)
9	TIME JAZZ	Dave Brubeck	Columbia CK 65121 (SM)
10	HEAD HUNTERS	Herbie Hancock	

## ROCK

This	Title	Artist	Label (distributor)
1	AMERICAN	The Offspring	Columbia 691952 (SM)
2	NEVERMIND	Nirvana	Geffen DGC 2425 (BMG)
3	BLOOD SUGAR SEX MAGIK	Red Hot Chili Peppers	Warner Bros 559766812 (E)
4	GARBAGE INC.	Garbage	Vertigo 538352 (E)
5	CARBAGE	Garbage	Mushroom D 31430 (BMG)
6	DOOKIE	Green Day	Reprise 836746752 (V)
7	APPELITE FOR DESTRUCTION	Guns N' Roses	Geffen GED 26148 (BMG)
8	ANTICHRIST SUPERSTAR	Marin Marston	Interscope RED 9006 (BMG)
9	BIG ONES	Aorstrom	Geffen GED 26546 (BMG)
10	A LITTLE SOUTH OF SWITZERLAND	Aorstrom	Geffen GED 2321 (BMG)

## XFM

This	Title	Artist	Label (distributor)
1	PRAYISE YOU	Fatboy Slim	Skinet N/A (MVP/VP)
2	CHOCOLATE SAULT BALS	Chel	Columbia XPCD1080 (S)
3	WILD WOOD	Paul Waller	Island CD1374 (F)
4	MY FAVOURITE GAME	The Cardigans	Stockholm/Polydor 5679832 (F)
5	LOTUS	REM	Warner Bros 94660 (W)
6	THE BARTENDER AND THE THIEF	Stereophonics	V2 VV6506513 (MVP/VP)
7	DELTA SUN BOTTLENECK STOMP	Marcy Rey	V2 VV6506513 (MVP/VP)
8	BEAUTIFUL DAY	9 Cowboys Red	Creation CRESC0306 (MVP/VP)
9	IMPOSSIBLE	River	Infectious N/A (V)
10	SETTING SUN	Symposium	Infectious N/A (V)
11	KING OF THE SNAKE	Underworld	V2 N/A (MVP/VP)
12	WHAT'S IT LIKE	Everlast	Tommy Boy TRC07478 (P)
13	NEVER THERE	Cake	Capricorn 538952 (E)
14	TEQUILA	Terraviva	EMI CDEVC6516 (E)
15	FIRE ESCAPE	Festival!	Hollywood 162382 (F)

This	Title	Artist	Label (distributor)
16	WHIPPIN' PICCADILLY	Gomez	Hut HUTCD195 (E)
17	KOREAN BODEGA	Fun Lovin' Criminals	Chrysalis N/A (E)
18	CRASH	Propellerheads	Wall Of Sound WALLD045 (V)
19	BETHE	UNKLE	Mo Wax/Parade N/A (V)
20	THE EVERLASTING	Metric Street Preachers	Epic 656862 (S)
21	THE WIND	FJ Harvey	Island CD 8026 (F)
22	555	Delakata	Go Beat N/A (F)
23	WAITING	The Devins	Radiactive RAXT05 (BMG)
24	ONE WEEK	Baranaked Ladies	Reprise 217174 (V)
25	AS GOOD AS IT GETS	Gene	Polygram N/A (F)
26	AEROPLANE SONG	Straw	WEA N/A (V)
27	LEECH	Eye Six	RCA 76510172 (E)
28	PRETTY LAY (FOR A WHITE GUY)	Offspring	Columbia N/A (S)
29	SLIDE	Go Go Dolls	Reprise N/A (F)
30	747	Kent	RCA 74215072 (E)

## INDEPENDENT SINGLES

This	Title	Artist	Label (distributor)
1	PRAYISE YOU	Fatboy Slim	Skinet SKINT 42CD (MVP/VP)
2	HEARTBEAT/TRAGEDY	Steps	EMI/Java 0519142 (P)
3	UP TO THE WILDESTYLE	Pom Kronic Vs DJ Supreme	AATW CDG0136 110 (P)
4	IF YOU BUY THIS RECORD...	The Tamperers feat.Maya	Pepper 0530131 (P)
5	PROTECT YOUR MIND	De Niro & Friends	Additive 12AD0 30 (V)
6	WOULD YOU?	Touch & Go	V2 VNR 500300 (MVP/VP)
7	3 NAUGHTY CHRISTMAS...	Fat Lax	Tortoise/Decca CDN 01 (V)
8	FOR AN ANGEL	Paul Van Dyk	Devision DVT 2425 (S)
9	IT FEELS SO GOOD	Sanjiv	Sonero SER 04021 (V)
10	CRUISE INTO CHRISTMAS MILEDY	Jane McDonald	Focus Music Int CDM 2 (V)
11	THE BARTENDER AND THE THIEF	Stereophonics	V2 VNR 500300 (MVP/VP)
12	IF YOU COULD READ MY MIND	Stars On 54	Torrey Bay TRCD 7493 (P)
13	SENSUALITY	Lewatation	Fresh FRSHD 21 (MVP/VP)
14	CANE DEL MAR '98	Energy 52	Hotj Choons HDJ1 64CD (V)
15	GANGSTER TRIPPIN	Fatboy Slim	Skinet SKINT 39CD (MVP/VP)
16	TELL ME MA	Sham Rock	Java 062252 (V)
17	SEX ON THE BEACH	T-Spoon	Control/Edel 904295 COIN (P)
18	CHEAP THRILLS	Franky Zap	Rhokids RCD 1013 (V)
19	THE ROCKAFELLER SKANK	Fatboy Slim	Skinet SKINT 30CD (MVP/VP)
20	ALARM CALL	Blark	One Little Indian 232 TP7CD (P)

## INDEPENDENT ALBUMS

This	Title	Artist	Label (distributor)
1	YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY, BABY	Fatboy Slim	Skinet BRASSIC 11CD (MVP/VP)
2	STEP ONE	Steps	EMI/Java 0519142 (P)
3	VERSION 2.0	GirGaze	Mushroom NCSN 25CD (MVP/VP)
4	THE MASTERPLAN	Creation CREC0 21 (MVP/VP)	
5	BIG CALK	Marthaeba	Indochine ZEN 110CD (V)
6	DESERTER'S SONGS	Mercury Rev	V2 VVR 104372 (MVP/VP)
7	H	Kid Cudi	Java 051732 (P)
8	GREATEST HITS	iPhac	Java 052262 (P)
9	WORD GETS AROUND	Stereophonics	V2 VVR 100048 (MVP/VP)
10	ONE WAY OF LIFE - BEST OF	Lewellers	China/Java 062212 (P)
11	JANE McDONALD	Jane McDonald	Focus Music Int FMCD 1 (V)
12	(WHAT'S THE STORY) MORNING GLORY?	Oasis	Creation CREC0 18B (MVP/VP)
13	GARBAGE	Mushroom D 31450 (MVP/VP)	
14	JURASSIC 5	Jurassic 5	Pan Pan 015CD (V)
15	SCREAMADELLICA	Primal Scream	Creation CREC0 076 (MVP/VP)
16	THE SINGLES 86-98	Depeche Mode	Meca CDM172 5 (V)
17	DECKS AND DRUMS AND ROCK AND ROLL	Propellerheads	Wall Of Sound WALLD 015 (V)
18	THE BOY WITH THE ARAB STRAP	Belle & Sebastian	Jogstrap JPRCD 303 (MVP/VP)
19	THE END OF SIKKLE	The Divine Comedy	Selena SETCDL 05 (V)
20	SONGBIRD	Eva Cassidy	Blue Street 6 21045 (NOT)

16 JANUARY 1999

# CLASSICAL REPORT



by ANDREW STEWART

Both specialist and crossover classical charts continue to be dominated by familiar artists and proven best-seller albums.

**Lesley Garrett, Vanessa-Mae, Andrea Bocelli, Karl Jenkins's** *Adiemus* and **James Horner** all featured in the New Year charts a year ago, with Horner's Titanic score not far short of its first anniversary as undisputed leader of classical crossover releases.

Last Thursday's prime-time screening of *Braveheart*, complete with Horner's OST, not surprisingly revived interest in Decca's soundtrack album - and it appears likely

that sales of Rachmaninoff's Third Piano Concerto and the original Philips soundtrack will soar later this week when Shine releases its UK television premiere.

Retail buyers are doubtless exciting by things known for issue on Polydor on February 8.

Also being issued on that day by Decca is a new duets album featuring **Cecilia Bartoli** and **Bryn Terfel**. A specialist disc it is destined to earn critical praise and do good retail business.

## CLASSICAL FACTFILE

the close of the first week of 1999. Although Decca's lavish **£750,000** marketing spend failed to help it capture long-term occupancy of the specialist chart's No.1 spot, the **Three Tenors** in Paris has become a permanent top-10 fixture. Meanwhile a combination of obscure ancient music, sacred texts and sex appeal continues to prove a winning formula for Mediavox's **Worship Belesse** on Virgin's Venture label.

The success of Virgin/EMI's prominent marketing campaign for the Most Relaxing Classical Album - Ever! 11 and the spread of similar releases in the classical crossover Top 20 suggests that the appetite for carefully-packaged classical compilation concepts has not been satiated. Strategic marketing of EMI's fine recording of John Rutter's Requiem and other sacred works by the Choir of King's College, Cambridge, has been rewarded with impressive sales since the album's launch last March.

The album's chart position was clearly boosted by worldwide radio and television

coverage of the 60th anniversary of the college's annual Christmas Eve service of nine lessons and carols.

What a good year 1998 turned out to be for budget-price label Naxos, with a consistent run of artistic and commercial successes. An Editor's Choice recommendation in Gramophone magazine has helped establish buoyant sales for Finland's Clarinet Concerto, while glowing reviews have given a flying start to two new releases, one devoted to Elgar's *Staircase* coupled with less-familiar works, the other comprising the spiritually profound music of Finnish composer Einojuhani Rautavaara.

## R&B SINGLES

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label	Cat. No.	(Distributor)
1	1	END OF THE LINE	Hovvdy	1st Avenue/Mercury	HY202 (2) F	
2	2	MIAMI	WV Smith	Columbia	6806782 (SM)	
3	4	TAKE ME THERE	Blackstreet & Mya feat. Maze & Dinky Black	Interscope (BMG)		
4	3	HARD KNOCK LIFE (Ghetto Anthem)	Jay-Z	Northwestside 7432183531 (BMG)		
5	5	WAR OF NERVES	All Saints	London	LONDON 421 (F)	
6	6	HAVE YOU EVER	Brandy	Atlantic	AT 0382 (C)	
7	7	THE GREATEST LOVE YOU'LL NEVER KNOW	Luzhica McNeal	Wildstar	CWDL11 (A)	
8	9	HOW DEEP IS YOUR LOVE	Doris Hill	Island	BKAC 2208 (S)	
9	8	IT'S ALL YOURS	MC Lytle feat. Gina Thompson	East West	EW 27897 (F)	
10	10	GUESS I WAS A FOOL	Andrea Gennaro	Northwestside	7432182122 (BMG)	
11	12	EVERY TIME	Janet Jackson	Virgin	VST 1720 (E)	
12	15	THE BOY IS MINE	Brandy & Mirica	Atlantic	AT 0007 (A)	
13	14	EACH TIME	E-17	Telstar	CDSTAS 3017 (A)	
14	11	GHETTO SUPASTAR THAT IS WHAT YOU ARE	Prinz Michael feat. ODB & Mya	Interscope	NO 5580 (BMG)	
15	13	BLUE ANGELS	Press	Ruffhouse	RR69215 (SM)	
16	17	LITTLE BIT OF LOVIN'	Kyle Le Roc	1st Avenue/Wild Card/Polydor	567812 (F)	
17	17	ANOTHER ONE BITES THE DUST	Queen/Myclid/Jean/Pas/Michele/Fev	Decca	MDM 2384 (BMG)	
18	25	HAPPY HOME	Z'evac	Eagle	EAG 12 038 (JAN)/BMG)	
19	22	THE FIRST NIGHT	Manica	Rowdy/Arista	7432181934 (BMG)	
20	23	COME WITH ME	Puff Daddy feat. Jimmy Page	Epic	866284 (SM)	
21	1	I WANT YOU BACK	Melanie B feat. Missy Elliott	Virgin	VST1716 (E)	
22	18	DAYDREAMIN'	Atiyeha	Epic	866495 (SM)	
23	24	ARE YOU THAT SOMEBODY?	Talisha Ali	Atlantic	AT 0902 (A)	
24	15	AIN'T NO STOPPING US NOW	Moby Alstars	CDC Video	VH 3623 (2) F	
25	23	TOP OF THE WORLD	Brando feat. Mase	Arista	ATR 4622 (A)	
26	19	LOVE LIKE THIS	Paul Diddy/Arista	7432182151 (BMG)		
27	33	BECAUSE I GOT IT LIKE THAT	Funk Brothers	Gez	SUREEY 2 GEE 50025 (JMMV) F	
28	26	HOME ALONE	R Kelly feat. Keith Murray	Capitol	532230 (A)	
29	35	SEXY CINDERELLA	Lynzee David/Hall	Coolestone	COODL03 340 (E)	
30	36	EVERYTHING'S GONNA BE ALRIGHT	Sweetest	RCA	7432182842 (BMG)	

© CN. Compiled from data from a panel of independents and specialist multiples.

## DANCE SINGLES

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label	Cat. No.	(Distributor)
1	1	PRAYSE YOU	Fatboy Slim	Skint	SKINT 42 (JMMV) F	
2	2	PROTECT YOUR MIND	DJ Sain & Friends	ADDAX	ADDAX 232 (F)	
3	3	YOU SHOULD BE	Blockstar	Sound Of Ministry	MOS 123 (JMMV) SM)	
4	4	GOOD RHYMES	Da Click	Mer	FX 253 (F)	
5	5	NO GOOD	Da Foot	Mer	FX 254 (F)	
6	6	DISCO BABES FROM OUTER SPACE	Babe Intox	Positiva	12TV1 103 (E)	
7	7	SINCERE	MJ Cole	AAW	AAW 528 (2) F)	
8	8	UP UP TO THE WILDLIFELY	Pom King Vs DJ Seven	AATW	125 105 (2) F)	
9	9	DISCART	Roy Davis, Jr feat. Pepen Everett	XL Recordings	XL 78 (FM)	
10	10	DISCO POP	Big Audio	Serious	SERF 021 (F)	
11	11	MIND OVERLOAD	Ram Trilobyte Pt 2	Ramm	RAMM23 (SRD)	
12	1	1999	Prince & The New Power Generation	Warner	WARNER 9467 (F)	
13	13	TAKE THE LONG WAY HOME	Faithless	Cherry	CHEK 1231 (JMMV) BMG)	
14	14	GO TO BE FOR REAL	Pressure Drop	Higher Ground	HIGHS 115 (SM)	
15	15	DISCART METHODS	DJ Reality	Trouble On Vinyl	TOV 028 (2) F)	
16	16	PRESSURE	John B	Formation	FORM 12079 (SRD)	
17	17	NEED YOU LOVE	Tuff Jam	Lockett	DO L0X08 (D)	
18	18	FOREVER TOGETHER	Ravena Mitei	Heat Recordings	HEAT CD016 (F)	
19	19	BREAKBEAT ERA	Breakbeat ERA	XL Recordings	XL 783 (F)	
20	20	LD DOWN	Facs	Trouble On Vinyl	TOV 12031 (SRD)	

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## DANCE ALBUMS

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label	Cat. No.	(Distributor)
1	1	YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY, BABY	Fatboy Slim	Skint	BRASSIC 116/BRASSIC 116 (JMMV) CMV) F)	
2	2	MY LOVE IS YOUR LOVE	Whitney Houston	Arista	47822193074 (BMG)	
3	3	It's	Mariah Carey	Epic	482094148/20094 (SM)	
4	5	EXTINCTION LEVEL: EVENTUAL WORLD FRONT	Busta Rhymes	Elektra	7555862211/755586211 (A)	
5	6	FLESH OF MY FLESH BLOOD OF MY BLOOD	DMX	Fox	Video 2765 (F)	
6	7	ENTER THE DRU	Dru Hill	Island	50842 (A)	
7	8	THE ANNUAL Pt. 1 - JUDGE JULES & BOY GEORGE	Various	Ministry Of Sound	JANNAH 8 (SM) CMV) F)	
8	9	BIG WILLY STYLE	Will Smith	Columbia	489662/489662A (F)	
9	10	DOCS'D DA NAME 2000	Redman	Def Jam	5989152 (F)	
10	11	MAGNETIC	Jony L	XL Recordings	XLCD0129 (SRD)	

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## VIDEO

This	Last	Artist/Title	Label	Cat. No.
1	1	ALLEN - RESURRECTION	Fox Video	223C 16 14
2	2	TITANIC	Fox Video	2945 17 6
3	3	MATILDA	Columbia TriStar	CVT4212V 18 28
4	3	GEORGE OF THE JUNGLE	Bacon Video	22 0810 19 15
5	5	LODRANGE KICK - FIGURE IT OUT WITH	Polygram Video	502710 20 15
6	4	STARSHIP TROOPERS	Touchstone	D10190 21 18
7	6	CASPER	CDC Video	VH 392 22 8
8	7	ANTHA TURNER - TONE, FLIT & CONDTION	CDC Video	VH4411 23 7
9	12	STAR TREK - FIRST CONTACT	Video Collection	VG242 24 16
10	11	BEVERLY HILLBILLIES - ULTIMATE RESULTS	Warner Home Video	502702 25 17
11	10	THE LITTLE MERMAID	Video Collection	VG272 26 17
12	9	BILLY CONNOLLY - EMERD FOR 30 YEARS	Video Collection	VG276 27 29
13	10	ROSEMARY CLARK - THE BEST WORKOUT...	McGraw-Hill	502708 28 22
14	10	TOMROW NEVER DIES	McGraw-Hill	502708 29 22
15	21	FLY AWAY HOME	Columbia TriStar	CVK511 30 30

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## MUSIC VIDEO

This	Last	Title	Label	Cat. No.
1	1	STEPS The Video	Zone	091715
2	2	ORIGINAL CAST RECORDING CAS	Polygram Video	47380
3	3	SEEBE BACHARD & CASPER	Mer	20037
4	4	ROBIN WILLIAMS - THE FRODO BAGGINS	Mer	20037
5	5	YANKEE HOTTEST VIXEN	Video Collection	61618
6	6	BOYMEOWIE Live - Where We Belong	BMG	Video 055623
7	7	MICHAEL FLUTE/FULL OF THE DISCO	VAL	43180
8	8	18000 Miles In The Sky	Video Collection	61618
9	9	THE BEATLES - THE BEATLES	Video Collection	61618
10	10	THE BEATLES - THE BEATLES	Video Collection	61618
11	11	THE BEATLES - THE BEATLES	Video Collection	61618
12	12	ROBBIE WILLIAMS - You're Loving Me	Capitol	48103
13	13	RADIOHEAD - Meeting People Is Easy	Liberty	48143
14	14	SPICE GIRLS Live At Wembley Stadium	Video	VG0204
15	15	THE BEATLES - THE BEATLES	Polygram	VG 1053 (2)

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Some industry observers were understandably suspicious when a Music Week A&R survey in September reported that more than half of the key senior executives polled were optimistic about the talent around, with almost half intending to spend more on signings in the next 12 months.

But that sense of optimism appears to be reflected in MW's 1998 Rosterwatch, which has identified 167 new album artists added to the rosters of the industry's biggest and most influential labels during last year.

Although the figures can never be definitive, certain labels decline to name some or all of the acts they have signed, while the list of labels included in the survey cannot be exactly the same each year—that figure is not significantly different to the 160- and 150-plus acts signed in 1997 and 1995 respectively.

But while the number of signings is one indicator of the state of health of the A&R community, the success rate being achieved by those signings is even more important than ever. Given the general pessimism about the state of the industry, MW's signings roundup is particularly interesting this year. The picture that emerges is mixed.

Each year we examine the strike rate of the previous year's signings. It is never high, but looking back at the list of new signings for 1997 that MW published a year

ago, it emerges that only 7.5%—equivalent to one in 13—have scored a Top 40 album to date. That is down from the 13.5% rate achieved by 1996's signings at the year before that.

It could be argued that more time is being spent on developing each act—after all, most acts average two years in development. But looking back at the strike rate for acts signed in 1996, the figures are even less impressive. While 12 months ago 13.5% had released a Top 40 album, 1.5% had only a further 36 weeks to join their ranks.

When it comes to nothing up Top 40 singles the figures are not much better, further emphasising that making the leap from deal to chart breakthrough is far from easy. Only 19.5% of 1997's new signings have managed it, down from 22% of 1996's signings at this point 12 months ago and from a third the year before that. Moreover, looking at the fortunes of those acts signed in 1996, two years on only 2.5% more have managed to achieve a Top 40 single at all.

While many column inches have been written about the turnover of acts signed and then dropped—not least because of Seagran's PolyGram purchase—there are rarely any hard-and-fast figures to draw on. Looking back at the 1997 signings named in MW's survey a year ago, however, around

	1996	1997	1998
Total number of acts signed	156	188	167
% Top 40 album strike rate	19%	13.5%	7.5%
% Top 40 single strike rate	33%	22%	19.5%
% acts no longer signed to label	53%	26.5%	

## ARISTA

**To Be Named (Belcher/Beasly):** The label declines to acknowledge or comment on this signing until after a couple of forthcoming independent releases. Formerly known as Animal House, they comprise ex/Elle Manne Mark Gossard and ex/Robert and ex/Mystic and Supersound-producer Sam Williams.

## BEGANS BANQUET

**Liana Farmers:** The South-east London grunge outfit are working with acoustic trio Live in the Sun, who are confirmed for this month's NME tour. They have previously released two singles on Piece Panda.

## Natacha Atlas

**(Mars):** A third solo album for the previous Nation signing—recorded in Egypt, the UK and US—is will be released next month.

## Whitist (Wig):

An acoustic three-piece, featuring ex/NME guitarist Ian Drench, whose debut album is due in March.

**Benny (Wig):** Manchester-based four-piece who mix punk and pop with breakbeats and live scratching. Previously they released three singles on Costermonger. A single is due in March.

**Ajani (Wig):** Female instrumentalist, writer, producer and singer Ajani Bhatia mixes Hindi vocals with acoustic instrumentation and dark beats. First full LP is due in March.

**Badly Drawn Boy (XL):** Much A&R interest in relations on Twisted Nerve made Manchester's Damon Gough one of 1998's hottest signings. His debut album is expected this summer.

**Maxim (XL):** The Prodigy frontman has been working on solo material which features some surprising collaborations. An album is due this autumn.

## CHEEKY RECORDS

**Skinny:** The critically-acclaimed Fallure single reached number 31 last April and the next, Friday Night in the Country (Oct.), is remixed by Norman Cook.

**Rob Dogan:** Having formerly recorded as Rob D, Australian Dogan mixes orchestral sounds with beats and impassioned vocals. He'll follow up a single with an album this summer.

**Pauline Taylor:** Described as 'Aretha Franklin meets a twisted Bob Dylan', Taylor follows

heavy touring with a debut single. Come Down, soon.

**Dido:** Rollo's enigmatic sister Dido mixes meaningful lyrics with atmospheric production values. Currently working with Rollo, Youth and Rick Nowels.

## CHINA

**Rialto:** After being dropped by East West, the retro pop act's debut album has sold more than 40,000 for China. At press time the band looked set to transfer back to Warner.

**Caesar:** The Dutch three-piece's debut album, No Rest For The Lonely was released in Spring '98.

**COALITION**  
**Backyard Babies:** Four-piece rock combo from Stockholm who have already released their Total 13 debut album.

**Fini Dole:** A New York street pop collaborating with a UK house DJ to mix spoken word with samples and loops. Debut album Rise is already available.

## COLUMBIA

**Heaphys:** Young, female, guitar pop four-piece. Co-written and co-produced by Phil Thornalley who penned Natalie Imbruglia's Top 10.

**The Lanterns:** Edinburgh-based male/female trio loosely described as 'Hieman urban alternative electro folk pop'. Their first single 'Highland Town', due out on January 18, was playlisted by Radio One six weeks upfront.

**Fused:** Swedish synth-based Euro-dance act. First single, This Party Starts, is out next month.

## CREATION

**Mikale:** Discovered by Alan McGee on a Caribbean beach and described as a hybrid of Sam Cooke and Bob Dylan.

**Technique:** London-based female electric pop duo whose first single, Six is Shining, is due for March release.

**One Lady (Oct.):** Widely played in the alternative press, this five-piece Manchester garage-rock act release a second single next month.

## DOMINO

**Cinema:** Cinematic blues-rock band from Glasgow who created a stir on the underground scene after a couple of 12-inch releases.

# Artist signings continued apace in 1998

Last year saw the arrival and dismissal of many names. Stephen Jones analyses the A&R trends

26.5% are no longer with their label. Even more notably, around 53% of the acts identified in the 1996 survey are no longer signed to the same company.

While in a few cases acts have split up or were signed to one-album deals, in most cases the acts were dropped. Charted 1996-97 signings who are understood to have parted company with their label include Belinda Carlisle, Robert Miles, Rialto, My Life Story, Code Red, Kenikie, Michelle Gayle, North & South, The Source, Kaleef, The Aboof, Soul II Soul, Tiger, Damage, Steven Houghton and—perhaps most

surprisingly—Dario G. Some, of course, have since signed new deals elsewhere.

That said, not all new talent struggles. Despite the less than encouraging statistics, new faces made plenty of inroads both critically and chartwise in 1998. Sheep, Gomez, B'Witched, Embrace, Lo-Fidelity Allstars, Islewild, Connor Reeves and Cleopatra were just a few of the unknown names to emerge from 1997's list to make their mark, while other newcomers who came from nowhere include Billie and Another Level.

Looking at the type of acts signed during

## ROSTERWATCH—1998

**V Twist:** 10-piece experimental rock and roll conceptualists described as Glasgow's answer to the Wu Tang Clan.

**Head:** Yorkshire-based folk/club innovators.

**Flacco:** The original UNKLE production team featuring Tim Goldsworthy and Kudo (Major Force West).

## EAST WEST

**Cay:** One of the In The City buzz bands tipped in MW, Grungy and occasionally described as John Lydon meets Courtney Love. Their debut album, produced by Phil Vinall, is due in March.

## EDEL UL

**Karen McSweeney:** After working with producer Andy Morris and his Stanley House team, McSweeney is due to release an album this year.

**T Spoke:** Last year's number two single Set On The Beach is followed by Tom's Party this week and an album later this year.

**Jamesstun (Playa):** The first project signed via Ed's Playa label deal releases I Believe, featuring Jocelyn Brown, in March.

## EMI/CHRYSALIS

**Pocket City (EMI):** Brighton-based male/female duo who have just finished their self-produced, multi-album.

**Dark Star (EMI):** Melodic rock trio formed from the ashes of Levitation. Have recorded their debut Twenty Twenty Sound album with producer Steve Lillywhite for release this spring.

**Get Halliwell (EMI):** The artist formerly known as Ginger Spice is working with Robbie Williams's Chrysalis's A&R man Chris Briggs.

**Vengayods (Positiva):** Dutch act who have enjoyed success across Europe and plan at least four singles from The Party Album released in March.

**Mo' Solid Gold (Chrysalis):** Five-piece signed by Anthony Cavanagh in November '98.

**Enna (EMI):** BBC1 leasersiders star Emma Bonner's covers album did not match G's Jane McDonald, but the artist is signed to a long-term deal.

**Rice (Chrysalis):** Angry-sounding Glaswegian artist behind last year's first single proper is due in February.

**Lucie (EMI):** London-based 21-year-old soul pop

singer-songwriter signed just before Christmas.

## EPIC

**Merz:** A buzz signing first tipped by Music Week. With comparisons between Finley Quay and early Beck, Conrad Lambert promises to deliver an enthralling album this year (see Top).

**NT:** Future rock/beats act picked up after leaving the Stereo MCs' label who built a steady following in 1998 with the release of their Responsibilities EP.

**Marvin & Tamara:** Signed due to Black Block's Blackout production company, this reggae-singed pop 13-year-old boy/girl duo are likely to release their first single around springtime.

## FOOD

**Fungus:** Although hailing from Sweden, this punk rock act have been established in London for more than a year. A release is due next month.

## GUT

**Tom Jones:** The Welsh superstar found a new home with Gut in 1998. First planned is an album of duets with major names.

**The James Taylor Quartet:** The veteran jazz funk-based outfit move to Gut for what could be their breakthrough. The plan is to build on their live potential.

**Jane McDonald (Focus Music International):** 1998's surprise success story with a 330,000-selling album and Top 10 Christmas single for the Cruise star.

**INDEPENDENT**  
**Archipel:** Picked up after leaving Island where the critically-acclaimed Londonian was recorded. Archive have now completed an album with Ian Stanley and Andy Gray for release this summer.

**Cashland:** Bristol-based three-piece guitar band described as a cross between early AC/DC and The Deltones.

**Rosalie Delight:** Bamsley-based 27-year-old singer/songwriter.

**Overman:** Enthralling Liverpool pop act first brought to light on Graham Coxon's Transcopic label.

## ISLAND

**Wildfire:** One of the hot names for 1999, these "mates of The Verve" first topped in UK No.12 months ago are setting their own agenda with the sold-out limited edition debut EP Quarantine.

**Elbow:** One of In The City's buzz bands, this Manchester five-piece—described as "Talk Talk



the past 12 months, few patterns emerge. Acts seem harder to box than ever, and thus new trends for 1999 are hard to predict, but some movements are already clear. With key albums expected from the likes of Blur, Skunk Anansie, Electronic, Ultrasound, Supersgrass, Jaki Shakar, Jammei, Catalonia, Gomez, Blondie, Suede, Texas and even Apollo 440, there is little doubt that 1999 will rock out more, and some expect new acts like London's Gay Day, WEA's new RCA's Soundproof, not to mention more Seventies-influenced NT, to join their ranks.

But with 1998 having been the year of pop, it looks more than likely that this trend will continue with the arrival of more credible pop acts, such as 19 Recordings' Teenage Rampage, who play their own instruments, and Universal's Next Of Kin.

Pop acts are always present, but the smart money this year appears to be on a number of more mature, developed and intelligent boy/girl bands and artists emerging. Among the contenders are Teistar's BB Mak, RCA's Made In London and Columbia's Hepburn. Even Creation is set to enter the pop arena for the first time with Technique, while London attempts to match Billie's achievements as a 15-year-old with a quite different pop artist in Virginia – whose only similarity with the Virgin newswoman is the age at which she is launching her career – and EMI plucks for mature pop in the form of Pooker Size.

RCA, meanwhile, also goes for the tried-and-tested route in Westside, as does Polydor with Coronation Street's Adams

Rickett. R&B influences continue to surface, but Epic's 13-year-old pop reggae duo Marvin & Tamara are again a demonstration of a step forward from the predictable.

Perhaps not too surprisingly, given the levels of success achieved by most dance acts of late, there are few dance signings. However, Innocent's Todd Terry project – to be released under the name Original Todd – should impress, while cheesier or retro material by acts like Columbia's The Lanters and London's Atlantic seems a hot tip.

On the eve of the millennium, 1999 is a year when some predict people are going to want to party, which is where 'fun' acts as varied as V2's Younger Youner 2Bs and London's Sonic Avengers more are likely to come in.

Meanwhile, all eyes will be on some of 1998's highest profile or more hotly-contested signings – including Merz, Martine McCutcheon, Badly Drawn Boy and Gort Hallwell – as well as those some A&R will wish they'd known about at the time, like Island's Winesap.

Ultimately 1999 could well be a year that sees the emergence of more wittily uncommercial artists such as East West's Jay, Beggar's Liana Farners, Ian Allen and Innocent managing director Hugh Goldsmith. While it has not been plain sailing for the group – they lost an earlier dispute over use of the name 21st Century Band – and recently lost their fifth member – they are set to become one of the year's most keenly watched signings. Their first single is expected in March/April.

Younger Youner 2Bs: The V2 signing could be just what the label needs. As they proved at In The City, the

# ACTS TO WATCH IN 1999

**Teenage Rampage:** The "glamorous punk" pop act – comprising four 14/15-year-old girls from Dudley who play their own instruments – were former Spice Girls member Simon Fuller's first signing to his new 19 Recordings label, five days before Christmas. Licensing deals are expected to be struck this week with Atlantic for North America and Virgin's Innocent label for the rest of the world.

Fuller is expected to take a back seat in developing the act – except, perhaps, when it comes to international work – leaving them in the experienced hands of teams led by manager Ian Allen and Innocent managing director Hugh Goldsmith. While it has not been plain sailing for the group – they lost an earlier dispute over use of the name 21st Century Band – and recently lost their fifth member – they are set to become one of the year's most keenly watched signings. Their first single is expected in March/April.

Younger Youner 2Bs: The V2 signing could be just what the label needs. As they proved at In The City, the

Guildford-based act's brand of comedy disco pop – think Shampoo-meets-Human League – might not be to everybody's taste, but makes people smile through their performances. The social content contained in their songs could even make them a hit on the eve of the millennium. However, having been A&R'd by manager Kevin Nixon until the deal indeed, he will effectively continue in the role through his production company Major Minor), they already have possible hits on the boil

that with a strong marketing campaign could deliver V2 a much-needed big album. First single is expected to be out in April. We're going Out In April, with an album in the summer. The band is also in discussions with several TV production companies to be the focus of a comedy series based on their life. **A1:** While A1 remained unsigned at press time, they are another "ready-made" four-piece boy band and a deal with Columbia – involving Sony chairman Paul Burger – is understood to be imminent. The band were put together by



YOUNGER YOUNGER 2Bs



A1

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## 98'S KEY SIGNINGS

with grooves" – were signed by Nick Angel last month.

**Akave Wall:** Out there wordsmith currently working on debut album for release this year.

**Jess Glynne:** Having enjoyed a healthy presence on the house scene for more than three years by releasing singles on their own El Chocolates label, their first island release will be Rewind next month.

**Me One:** With roots in Wales and Jamaica, Me One blends hip hop and alternative R&B. Has collaborated with the likes of Guru and Tone and others in the spring.

**Laptop:** Another of the year's "talked-about" signings – by Nick Angel – after two singles on God Bless Records and one on Fierce Panda. An album is expected this spring.

**JIVE:** **Tina Cousins (Ebu/Jive):** After a UK number two hit with Saah! and Top 20 solo single, Cousins has completed her album and releases a single next month.

**R&B/pop** artist's first single will be released in March.

**Jez Medcalf (Ebu/Jive):** A 15-year-old R&B/pop artist whose first release is due in April.

**Grove Armada (Pepper):** Dance act picked up in September from a limited release at The River was a Jimmy Edition release from the critically acclaimed Northern Star album. First general release will be At The River.

**The Tamperer Belt, Maya (Pepper):** The Tamperer follows two UK top five singles – including a record of the Year finalist nomination – with a third, sampling Set'n'Peppa, next month.

**Kawals:** Male/female duo funk groove trio due to support Faithless in the New Year.

**LONDON**

**Sonic Avengers:** Two sisters from this four-piece "sophisticated" band whose first single is released in February.

**Deafest:** After Top 20 success with her Dire Straits-sampling debut Relax, the Swedish artist follows up with El Pariso next month, before an album.

**Atlantic:** Female duo Atlantic is tipped to revive Sessions' dancefloor focus, aided by Trevor Hall on their first single.

**All Seeing I:** Alternative dance act follow last spring's The Beat Goes On with the Jarvis Cocker-penned Walk Like A Panther this month.

**Lucid:** Live dance act who went Top 10 with I Can't Help Myself in August follow up with Crazy next month.

**Victoria:** Promising 15-year-old singer-songwriter in a Muzzy Star-meets-Natalie Imbruglia vein.

**MCA**  
**Lucy (MCA):** Busy three-piece from Tonbridge Wells. Album co-produced with Chris Allison. First single is due in March.

**MERCURY**  
**Raw Deal (Talkin Loud):** Signed after releasing several underground tunes, including 'Head the Kemer' for an album that plans to "put the funk back into the big beats".

**Krust (Talkin Loud):** Reprezent collective key member Krust is working on his own material, which is leading him to be described as the Sun 8's drum & bass.

**Emmie:** The 22-year-old singer-songwriter's debut, a cover of Roy Music's 'More Than This', is produced by Lucid and released this month.

**Honeyz:** The First Avenue-managed trio debuted in the Top 10 with Finally Found in 1998 – although the album has so far failed less well. A single, 'Love Of A Lifetime', is due in March.

**Karen Ramirez:** Ramirez had the sixth biggest airplay hit of 1998 with Looking For Love but the album has not risen higher than number 45 in the five months since release. A follow-up single is due in March.

**MINISTRY OF SOUND**  
**Blokkerz (Sound of Ministry):** DJs Brandon Block, Ricky Morrison and Fran Sidoli follow up You Should... with a new single in the spring and album on the Sound of Ministry imprint.

**M&S (Sound of Ministry):** London production team described as a C&C Music Factory for the millennium.

**Skewd (FSUK):** Critically acclaimed beats-influenced duo whose debut album is due for release in the first quarter.

**ATB (Debut):** German trance outfit. Released in the New Year with Signum remix.

**Josy Nunez feat. Octavia (Sound of Ministry):** The duo from the Subliminal camp follow in My Life with a new single featuring more smooth vocals and a more house feel in the year.

**Park Force (Sound of Ministry):** Matthew Roberts and brother, already with remix credits and productions under their belt from the Spice Girls to U2. They release their debut single next month.

**MUSHROOM**  
**Dave Smuggler:** Leeds-based DJ/musician duo, picked up through Perfecto. Two singles and an album are planned this year.

**Christian Fry:** 23-year-old teen pop idol who has toured with Boyzone and reached number 45 on his debut single with little radio support in 1998.

**BUTE**  
**Appliance:** Three-piece electro band from Exeter.

**19 RECORDINGS**  
**Teenage Rampage:** This "glamorous punk" pop four-piece were Simon Fuller's first signing to his new label shortly before Christmas (see Tips).

**NUDE**  
**Lewgolf:** Lo-fi quartet four-piece compared to a mix of early Fleetwood Mac/Teenage Fanclub fronted by Steve Merritt.

**ONE LITTLE INDIAN**  
**Five Amendment:** Best described as a white Skunk Anansie. Currently working on their forthcoming album. Emilia: Isotonic singles. Secret project, understood to be closer to Liz Fraser than Björk.

**Karen Ramirez (Elemental):** The former Blur Ultra brother and sister make up part of this act who have been recording in Sausalito, Calif.

**Ruby Cricket (Rough Trade):** Wash act, described as a popper's Presidents Of The USA, who have just finished their album.

**OUTCASTE**  
**Nini Chik:** Southampton-based artist who specialises in deep medec tracks.

**Me Mage:** Computer whizz who fuses hip hop beats with out to tablas. Currently DJing across Europe and the UK.

**Ge & Usman:** East London DJ/producer teams up with Mancunian guitarist to produce energetic material.

**PARLOPHONE**  
**Divine Comedy:** Neil Hanson switches to Parlophone after completing his Salsata deal with another gold album in Fin De Siecle, although further singles are yet to come from it.

**Brother In Sound (Real Gone):** Dense-sounding, melodic Dornsbett three-piece. EP due in March.

**Galactic:** Female singer blending beautiful songs with contemporary sounds. Currently completing her debut album. First single due in May.

**Jamella (Rhythm):** Female vocalist with a street R&B overtones coupled with a pop edge. Debut release due in March.

**POLYDOR**  
**Eagle-Eye Cherry:** Swedish artist picked up from Diesel whose debut album has sold 900,000

copies (ex-US) after two singles.

**Adam Rickett:** Ex-TOIP editor Peter Loraine's first signing is the 19-year-old Street Star.

**JP (Wildcard):** One of the UK's busiest – and best – club MCs signed by Colin Barlow and managed by First Avenue.

**Arab Strap (Go Beat):** Lo-fi guitar band from Falkirk who quietly moved to the major last summer from Chalk.

**WESTSIDE**  
**Fridge (Go Beat):** Rock/dance three-piece previously signed to Trevor Jackson's Output label.

**Rob & Sue (Go Beat):** South of England duo who incorporate acoustic bass with strings.

**Lolly:** Exciting female singer-songwriter signed on Christmas Eve whose ultra pop is aimed at eight to 12-year olds. Her debut record, My First Album, is due in the first quarter.

**RCA**  
**Merco:** Teenage Scots pop duo who have been signed in LA, New York and London. Debut is expected this spring.

**Anja Garbarek:** The daughter of jazz pioneer Jan Garbarek originally released two albums on BMG in her native Norway, including the forthcoming UK release, Balloon Mood, due next month.

**Collette:** Singer-songwriter with a classic folk sound. Currently in Nashville working with Pete Collins on her summer release.

**Soundproof:** One of the year's buzz signings, by Nick Raymond, boasts the singing nucleus of vocals: Amanda Delandino and Italian guitarist Luca Finardi mixing hip hop sensibilities with rock/pop.

**Westside:** South East best newcomers of 1998, the pop R&B boy band – co-managed by Louis Walsh and Boyzone frontman Ronan Keating – are working on their debut album.

**Made In London:** Former four-piece signed by Marc Fu and managed by Simon Walton. Essentially a pop act but with rock and R&B influences, the first release is due in April.

**ROADRUNNER**  
**Tam:** Scottish band in London-based, five-piece has been somewhat of a success since winning the 1997 ICI Unsigned competition. They follow their 1998 single Aliens with an album soon.

**Flek:** Young Herts-based techno rock act. Their Round Window single is set to spearhead their campaign.

## ACTS TO WATCH IN 1999

the Byrne Blood management team of Vicky Blood and Tim Byrne who manage Steps, although the pair started developing A1 long before the Aboz-soundalikes. Each member of the group has some kind of musical pedigree — from performing in Westminster Abbey to stints on cruise ships — and can play various instruments. While they have been writing with producer Steve Mac (Boyzon, Damage), their self-produced material shows them at their best. The first single is expected in the spring.

**Merz:** Having built underground attention on his own Lotus Records label, Merz is well set to be broken on Epic some 12 months after signing during an A&R race which ultimately saw the Sony label beat Virgin's Hut. The mix of African-influenced and Western beats, DJ scratches and poignant lyrics delivered with jawping vocals still



GAY DAD

sound refreshingly out of step with most of his contemporaries. Merz (real name Conrad Lambert) has spent the past year developing ideas with co-producer and Björk programmer Marcus Dravs. His debut album is expected to contain fascinating collaborations (including BJ Cole and Van Morrison's keyboardist Neil Drumkettle) with a first proper single coming in May.

**Gay Dad:** If 1999 is going to rock, Gay Dad's sound, name and aim to "make the guitar say again" already has many talking about him leading the fray. Signed to London Records in 1997, and having just completed a deal with EMI Publishing, the band centre around *Face/Mojo* writer Cliff Jones. With influences from John Lennon and the Clash to Kraftwerk, they claim to be more than just another guitar band. Working with former A&D The Ants member and producer Chris Hughes, the modest concept from the outset has been to produce a classic album. *Leisurenoise* is due for release in March. First single, *To Earth With You*, originally promoted in autumn 1998, was playlisted by Radio One before its release next week.



MERZ

## ROSTERWATCH — 1998'S KEY SIGNINGS

## SKINT

**Indian Rope Man:** Multi-talented musician Sanjiv Sen combines a range of styles to create his brand of stank-funk.

**Sparky Lightburn:** Peckham-based Alex Mitchell creates twisted dub tracks. His single, *Can't Stop*, is released next month. An album follows in March.

**Super Collider (Legacy):** Legendary techno producer Cristian Vogel and Jamie Udel released their debut single, *Dan Cold Way U' Lovin'*, at the end of 1998. Live shows are planned around the release of their new album.

**Leerd (Released):** Former Fall bassist and half of Slacker, Simon Roger is working on a series of breakbeat atmospheric soundtracks with world music influences.

**Taxi Driver (Esteros):** This London six-piece funk band plan a spring single then an album.

**Frankie Valentine (Esteros):** Funky Latino house. February sees the release of remixed *Baby Spanish Dance*.

**Jovona (Esteros):** New Jersey house music from the 24-year-old underground dance veteran. A March single is due this month.

**Nejha:** Described as a "conjunction of punk energy and twisted melodies", Nejha's are managed by Neil Eastbury and release their first eponymous dubbed single on February 1.

**Paddy Casper:** Dublin-based, folk-influenced singer/songwriter.

**Toploader:** Rock'n'roll five-piece from the south coast with soulful grooves.

## TELBAR

**BB Mak:** Signed after much A&R interest, this London trio — described as a young Bee Gees — are writing in Sweden and LA with Anders Bagge, Phil Thornalley and Graham Gouldman. Debut single is due in June.

**Merika (Dobson):** Aka, from the Ivory Coast, and Shully, from Cork, mix African vocals with Celtic rhythms for crossover potential. Debut

single *Sousouline* is released next month and an album follows in the summer.

**E-17:** The East Enders continue their comeback with a second single, a remix of *Betwee C&T*. Wall, from their Restoration album.

**Seafirst (Electric Circus):** Sheffield-based five-piece who mix pop melodies with crashing guitars and synths and a strong male vocal. First single is

due in March. An album, produced by Ash Howes, follows in late spring.

**Papa Mantra:** Simple pop but mixing dub, punk, jungle and jazz grooves. Debut single, *Out Of Your Tree*, is due in May.

**Aida (Wildstar):** After two Top 30 pop hits last year, the lead singer's *Out Of Aida* debut album is due in the spring.

**Fierce (Hardback/Wildstar):** Feisty alt/rock trio whose debut single, *Right Here, Right Now*, went Top 25 last week. Their second single is due in March with an album in the summer.

**Mike Koglin (Muttigny):** UK Top 20 hit with *The Silence* in November, top follow-up single *Koglin* plans to return with a follow-up single and an album this year.

**Mirror Ball (Multiply):** One of the biggest disco sampling records around, *Even Up* has been Radio One playlisted before its release this month.

**Heliopole (Multiply):** Epic house music act developing material for release later this year.

**Trunam & Wolf (Multiply):** R&B-sunged house music. Album due for release later in 1999.

**Monk & Ganatella:** Bristol-based act with dark melodies who were picked up from Cup Of Tea Records. Currently working with New York hip-hop/industrial guitar producer Machine on their forthcoming album. A single is due in March.

## UNIVERSAL

**Next Of Kin:** Holywell-born guitar-pop Essex band who have Simon Fuller working as manager and are collaborating with Gary Stevenson, Ian Allen, Richie Dummer, Cathy Dennis and Nick Kershaw on their debut single, *24 Hours*, due next month. **Aya:** From London but New York-based, Aya is a soulful female singer-songwriter. First single is due in the spring.

**To Be Named:** A female teen duo from New York first pop album. Working with Howard Toshman in their first single, *Un Stick U*, is due for release in April.

**Palmer:** South London hip hop crew whose first single, *It's Over/Pages Of Life*, is due out on March 1.

**Rajax:** Dutch pop/rap act releasing their debut single *It's In The Spring* in March.

## VIRGIN

**Milam Steptoe:** One of the UK's most respected session singers who was the soloist featured on the three *Adrianus* albums is working on her debut solo album of contemporary songs for spring release.

## What happened to last year's tips?

**Lo-Fidelity Allstars:** Having begun the year being dubbed the punk Massive Attack, the Skint Records signing made somewhat modest progress in 1998, leaving the glory to Fofy Signy. The Top 20 album, *How To Operate With A Blow in Mind*, released in June, received mixed reviews and went on to sell 55,000 copies in the UK and more than 30,000 across Europe. A six-month gap between two Top 40 singles in May and November — despite limited radio support — culminated in the acrimonious departure of lead singer and co-founder The Wrecked Train aka Dave Randall after an argument over the direction of the band.

**Ultraound:** Despite *Nude's* intentions, 1998 proved to be a year of groundwork for Ultraound as they sought to translate the A&R buzz that began at an *NME* showcase two years ago into building a wider fanbase. The limited edition first single *Best Wishes* surprised many by going Top 75 in March. While *Young Blood* failed to go Top 100 in June with little radio support, *Reviewers* raved about their live festival gigs, and the band are due

**Caprice:** Virgin declines to comment on the signing but the model is known to be working on material that attempts to bridge a gap between Madonna and Massive Attack.

**Hebokat (Hut):** Scottish singer-songwriter Mark Pitt is working on an album for release this year.

**Birth (Hut):** The singer-songwriter aka DL is described as sounding somewhere between the Doobie Bros and Marc Bolan.

**Sunna (Melanokid):** Solo artist Jon Harris is working on an album for release this year.

**PH (Melanokid):** Mississippi Bristol dance duo completing their album due out this year.

**Microtones (Science):** Paris-based duo whose debut single *The Jag*, due in March, is already causing a stir with dance aficionados.

**Stacy Pallen (Science):** One of the current wave of Detroit producers, Pallen is currently finishing his first album, due to be released this summer.

**Marlene McCatcheen (Innocent):** The former EastEnders star has been recording original work in New York for spring release.

**The Original Todd (Innocent):** Todd Terry is set to release this impressive and leftfield album project in 1999.

## V2

**Scott 4:** Impressive lo alternative country act who switched label after releasing their highly-acclaimed album *Recorded In State* for Satellite.

**Currently working on a self-produced record for spring release.**

**ApRhodie:** One of the leading DJs on the UK drum & bass scene, his debut album is due for summer release.

**Touch And Go:** A follow-up single and album to the November top three hit *Would You?* is planned.

**Riboceros:** Jean Philippe French DJ/Paolo Carrera are a funky French trio who have already released an EP in their native country. A self-produced album will be released in April.

**Regular Fives (Junior Boys On):** Buzz band centred around the *NME's* Paul Moody, whose two limited edition EPs caused a stir. An album is due in the spring.

**Camp Velvet (PIAS Records):** Skunk rock band whose first proper single, *To Lose, La Trax*, is due out on February 27.

**Younger Younger 29s (Major Minor Music):** "Council block pop" act who impressed at the ITC

to finish recording their debut album (due early March/April) this week.

**Maria Naylor:** Having enjoyed success as Robert Mains' vocalist on *One And One*, Naylor's solo career with *Deconstruction* has fared less well. Debut solo single *Naked And Sacred*, co-written with Grammy winners Rick Nowells and Billy Steinberg, reached number 32 in March, while follow-up *Will You Be With Me* stalled at 65 in September. Naylor is still working on her album which is due to release this May after another single.

**Glamma Kid:** WEA finally unleashed the charismatic ragga MC through the FutureFlex label set up by his A&R man Mickey D. His Bowie cover, *Fashion 30*, rapidly came to the Top 50 in November. A version of *Sade's Sweetest Taboo* — featuring Shola Amos and produced by All Saints collaborator K-Gez — should find wider support when it is released in February/March.

**Idlewild:** The rocking 1997 ITC Unsigned runners-up enjoyed a string of minor hits, including two Top 50 rankings, in 1997 — no mean achievement in a pop year. Their *Hope Is Important* album, however, stalled at number 53 in November and has sold 20,000 copies worldwide to date. Their latest single, *When I See Shapes*, due for release on February 1, has delivered their first Radio One playlisting.

**Thunderbuds:** Nothing, bar development. The hush-hush female pop act managed by First Avenue and signed to Epic have yet to release a single — nothing is due until the spring — although Sony still expects them to be one of its top five artists in 1999.

Unsigned 1998 event (see listings)

**WARB**

**Bands Of Canada:** After jointly releasing the acclaimed *Music Has The Right To Children* with Manchester label Sham, which has sold 50,000 copies worldwide, the duo's new album, *It's A Scottish Electronic Act* is expected in 1999.

**Pione:** Quirky Birmingham-based electronic act plan an album for the first half of this year.

## WEA

**Stew:** Widelipped Bristol four-piece indie rock act managed by Kevin Hood.

**Johnston Brothers:** Brothers Ed (aged 23) and Henry (25) are currently working on their debut album due out in late August.

while two singles will be released in early summer.

**Koet:** South London four-piece whose demo was produced by Morcheba. Rumoured to be among the year's most expensive signings, they are recording with Kevin Bacon and Jonathan Quarmby. First release is due in March.

**7th Son (FutureFlex):** British all-male three-piece signed to Mickey D's new label.

**Queenia (Queenia & Negro):** With a sound lying somewhere between early Creams and Garbage, a six-stringing queen, produced by Head, is eagerly awaited.

**Amar (Blanco Y Negro):** Amar has already created a stir on the underground scene with releases on *Sounds Of The Asian Underground*. Recorded in both India and the UK, the album is set for spring release.

**DJ Pulse (FutureFlex):** A major player on the UK drum & bass scene, Pulse has been working on his forthcoming EP and album for the past year in his home studio.

**Pondlife (Eternal):** From the producers of *Agua and Agua*, this female-fronted English four-piece offer "a new kind of quality teen pop".

**Andreé Grant:** Croydon-based new soul talent. Grant spent the past three years at the BTE school before signing to WEA after brief stints at *Deconstruction* and *Blacklist Entertainment*. It is currently working on her album.

**Cole:** London-based indie pop/new wave act, described as "wasting *Adams* melodies to tower block beats". First release due soon.

**Listing covers album acts signed during 1998. Additional research by Matt Jerwood**

# SINGLE of the fortnight

**TERRORVISION:** Tequila (EMI CDVECA5516). Two years ago, Chris Evans championed Texas; now Zee Ball has decided to do the same for Terrorvision. This funky single - comprising the excellent Mint Royale remix and the original Edwyn Collins-produced version -

already sounds like classic party backing music. All that could hold it back is the fact that we've been here before at this time of year - 12 months ago Cornershop topped the chart thanks to Fatboy Slim, and this record certainly has more to do with Mint Royale than Terrorvision. Most will not care, however, as this is an adrenaline sing-a-long record that should boost the band's album *Shaving Peaches*. (Released January 18)



**RECORDED:** MERCURY REV: Delta Blue Stomp Song (V2 VVR5005413). The follow-up to Goddess On A Highway is as strong as any alternative track around at present. Laced with intriguing melodies, its Radio One As Featured playlisting could signal their breakthrough. (January 25)

**GARBAGE:** When I Grow Up (infectious TRASH28). Shirley Manson's crew got more pop than ever before on this dark but stunning release, proving their Grammy nomination is well deserved. (January 18)

**RECORDED:** THE OFFSPRING: Pretty Fly (For A White Guy) (Columbia XPCD1070). For thirty-something punks, The Offspring can still manage to pull a cracking tune out of the bag when they want to. Their mix of chugging guitars, hammering drums and off-the-wall lyrics is just the thing to break those post-New Year blues. (January 18)

**SEBADDH:** Flame (Domino RUG80CD). Evenly paced and tied down with a thumping beat, this is a simple but effective single. Flame should go down with alternative stations but there is a chance it might just cross over. (January 25)

This week's reviews: Yinka Adedoké, Dugald Baird, Michael Byrne, Stephen Jones, Sophie Moss and Simon Ward.

## ALBUM reviews

**911:** There It Is (Virgin CDV 2873 7423 & 469828). After a swift change of management last July, 911 return with this covers album. October's number two version of the Bee Gees' 'More Than A Woman' proved their ability to cross over; media support for their cover of Dr Hook's 'Little Bit More' is extensive, though little else on this album shines. (January 25)

**ULTRA:** Ultra (East West 193CD1). As well as success abroad, Ultra notched up three Top 30 UK hits in 1998 with Say You Do, Say It Once and The Right Time. Their new single Rescue Me is their best to date, but there's too few weighty melodies on this album for the UK listener. (January 25)

## SINGLE reviews

**HOLE:** Malibu (Geffen WGFSTDD2369). Can nothing stop Courtney Love? She's managed to take a rough'n'ready band and make them more polished, yet still loaded with credibility. Malibu is a storming tune, but with the media tired of Love's attitude, it's unlikely to chart well. (January 18)

**RECORDED:** GAY DAD: To Earth With Love (London LONCD413). The media's great hope for 1999 belie their 'shocking' name by debuting with a piece of power pop which alternates guitar workouts and invitations to 'Get it on' with quieter choruses. Radio One has B-listed the track. (January 18)

**PAUL VAN DYK PRESENTS HUMATE: Love Stimulation (Deviant DVNT022CD5).** Following his Top 30 single *For An Angel*, the German DJ returns with a sublime new mix of this trance classic, which is previously unreleased in the UK. (January 25)

**RECORDED:** ARMAND VAN HELDEN: You Don't Know Me (ffrr FCD357). Van Helden has bounced back into the limelight with this excellent slice of disco house. A strong contender in the post-Stardust anthem stakes, it is on Radio One's *A-list*. (January 25)

**BLONDIE:** Maria (RCA/Beyond 74321 645632). This return sees pure Blondie guitar tempered by Debbie Harry's voice which assures that 20 years on, their music is as vibrant as ever. As the *Independent* On Sunday put it in a live review, Maria deserves to be on any Best Of compilation. (January 25)

**BUSTA RHYMES: Gimme Some More (Elektra E3782 CD).** Busta Rhymes is the master of the catchy hip hop chorus as he has proved in the past with *Woo Hah!* and last year's top five hit *Turn It Up*. That success, and the energy of this track, should guarantee attention, though national radio has not yet come on board. (January 18)

**THE LANTERNS: HighRise Town (Columbia 6665714/2).** This is the debut release by the Edinburgh-based trio who have been described as "Hibernian-urban-alternative-electro-folk-pop". Its appeal lies not so much in the pop dance grooves but the cheesy lyrics, leading to a Radio One playlisting six weeks upfront. (January 25)

# ALBUM of the fortnight



**CASSIUS:** 1999 (CDVIR76).

Spearheading the next wave of French house, Philippe Zdar and Roombass's debut album as Cassius - they have previously recorded as La Funk Mob as well as producing MC Solaar - highlights the diversity of their influences. There are strong

elements of hip hop, disco and drum & bass in the mix, but mostly

it is funk which comes to the fore. Rather than lifting obvious

retro samples, the duo create a sound that is wholly contemporary.

While the album lacks the wit of Stardust's Thomas Bangalter, there's a playfulness which much UK dance music seems to lack. The single *Cassius 99* is currently on Radio One's *As Featured* list, setting up the duo for chart success. (January 25)



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## RETAIL FOCUS: FOPP

by Karen Faux

Christmas sales may have been down for some high street traders, but at Edinburgh indie Fopp the mood is upbeat. Assistant manager Martin MacAuley reports that the store has just enjoyed its most profitable Christmas period yet, blowing last year's sales figures out of the water.

"We've recently had to compete with a small indie store opening a few doors up and a mega-bucks re-opening of HMV's Princess Street store," says MacAuley. "While we are continuing to serve the traditional mix of Fopp product to our ever-growing customer base, we are also working hard to ensure that we don't lose our newer customers back to HMV."

Christmas business confirmed that Fopp's wide-ranging customer base was prepared to stay loyal. While its best sellers included South Park, REM, U2, Fatboy Slim and Robbie Williams, it also maximised sales for more specialist albums such as Kruder & Dorfmeister's K & D Sessions, Mercury Rev's Deserter Songs, and Beck's Mutations.

The budget setter was another strong performer. "Fopp doesn't have the kind of



Fopp: the store's bottom line is providing quality music at excellent prices

budget restraints that many indie stores face, so we were able to go head to head with the chains during Christmas," says MacAuley. "Our highly advertised campaign offered REM, Madonna and the Beautiful South at a tender, customer who had previously shopped at HMV or Virgin were pleasantly surprised to discover they could pick up George Michael and U2 doubles for around £3 cheap."

MacAuley believes that Fopp's rapport with its customers sets it apart from other stores. "If you treat your customer with respect you gain a mutual trust. And if they enjoy shopping here, they will come back and hopefully bring their mates with them."

The store's "Suck It And See" policy where customers are refunded for unwanted CD purchases is proving very popular and it has also made its special ordering service more

## FOPP'S TOP 10 12-INCHES

1. Fatboy Slim *Praise You (Skint)*
2. System F *Out Of The Blue (Tsunami/FFRR)*
3. Armand Van Helden *2 Future 4 U EP (VH)*
4. Tilt *Children (Deconstruction)*
5. DJ Sakin & Friends *Protect Your Mind (Additive)*
6. Phatts & Small *Turn-A-Round (Boo)*
7. Fred & Ginger *Slam Jam (Freebase)*
8. Pump Label Confusion/Ego Acid '98 (Missile)
9. Sunglasses Ron *Feel The Beat (White Label)*
10. Adam Beyer & Marco Carola *Drumcode 16 (Drumcode)*

efficient by introducing postal notification to customers when their orders are ready for picking up.

As far as Fopp is concerned the bottom line is providing quality music at excellent prices. "There's no reason why you shouldn't be able to purchase an Upsteters LP, the Billie CD and a Jeff Mills 12-inch all in the same store," says MacAuley. "And that's just what we deliver."

## IN-STORE THIS WEEK

Andy's Book

Dance single - TQ; Windows - Prince Of Egypt, sale with CDs at £5.99 or five for £20; In-store and press ads - Jacqueline du Pre, Brunswick Box Set, Carnival Of The Animals, Keb Mo, Marian Carey, Robbie Williams, Crazy Cajun catalogue.

ASDA

Singles - Another Level, 911, Emmie, 3 Colours Red, All Seeing I, Cassius, Juliet Roberts; Albums - Best Club Anthems Ever '99, Lloyd Cole; In-store - sale

Boots

Album - Robbie Williams; Video - Fighting Fat And Fighting Fit; In-store - sale with two CDs or three cassettes for £10, video sale with 50% off selected catalogue, fitness video promotion

FARRINGDON'S

Windows - Evelyn Glennie, Roberto Alagna and Angela Georgoul, Andreas Scholl; In-store - Vanessa Mae, Charlotte Church, sale

HMV

Single - 911; Windows - clearout sale; In-store - Another Level, Emmie, All Seeing I, Juliet Roberts, Cassius, 3 Colours Red, PJ Harvey, Destiny's

Child; Press ads - Maximum Hardcore, Lloyd Cole, Sebadoh, Locked On, Black Crowes, Annie Di Franco

MENZIES

Single - All Seeing I; Windows and in-store - Best of '98 promotion featuring selected albums at £9.99, Robbie Williams

Selects listening posts - Morcheeba, The Egg, 2Pac, Tribe Called Quest, Rialto, Entombed, Skiny Pappy, Pinnacle compilation; In-store at Moko recommended retailers - 'Signifying', Jungle Funk, Snowday And The Latin Section, Nite Fyfe, Like It

NOW

Single - 911; Another Level; Albums - Englebert Humperdink, Little Forest, Motown; Dancing In The Street, Best Club Anthems Ever '99; Video - The Jackal, South Park Vol 7

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Singles - 911, Another Level, Cassius, 3 Colours Red, PJ Harvey, Juliet Roberts; Albums - Steps, Robbie Williams, Massive Attack, Fatboy Slim, Manic Street Preachers; In-store - promotion, Steps, Alanis Morissette, Fatboy Slim; In-store -

Best of '98, Steps, Robbie Williams, Whitney Houston, Massive Attack

TOWER RECORDS

Singles - 911, Cassius, 3 Colours Red; Windows - four CDs for £19.99, Jewel, Little Voice, Offspring; In-store - four CDs for £19.99 with cross merchandised multi-buy, Fatboy Slim; Press ads - PolyGram Classics, Ash, Garbage, Mercury Rev, Belle & Sebastian, Fatboy Slim, Offspring

MEGASTORES

Singles - 911, All Seeing I, Another Level, Cassius, Emmie, Juliet Roberts, PJ Harvey, 3 Colours Red; Windows - CDs at £7.99; In-store - sale, Peak Performers promotion, CDs at £7.99, Vital CDs for £9.99, £2 off BBC Music Magazine critics' choice CDs

WHSmith

Single - All Seeing I; Windows and in-store - Best of '98 promotion featuring selected albums at £9.99

WOOLWORTHS

Singles - 911, Emmie, Album - Lloyd Cole; In-store - George Michael, Robbie Williams, sale CDs from £2.99 and cassettes from £1.99; Press ads - 3 Colours Red, Another Level, Hits '99



ANGELITA RAVIZZOLI, assistant manager, Tower Records, Piccadilly

"I've worked here at Tower's flagship store for more than 10 years and during that time the premises have expanded and the structure of the shop has changed quite a bit. Everyone is very happy with the way the various departments are currently organised and the store continues to be renowned for its range of product. We have four floors with 200,000 titles in stock and nearly 200 staff.

Christmas business was up to scratch and we received a very good response to our seasonal guide, which features all the big albums along with our personal favourites. As expected, we notched up big sales for George Michael, Madonna, U2 and Alanis Morissette, and we also did well with more specialist product such as the Nuggets box set, Phil Spector's Christmas Album and Miles Davis' Complete Bitches Brew. This week, sales are motoring nicely on

the back of our Big Sale, which features a competition to win a Volkswagen Polo and offers 25% off all product. We are also offering a multi-buy deal with four CDs for £19.99 and featuring promotions for 3 Colours Red, Cassius and 911.

There are some good singles around which are helping the format to sustain momentum after Christmas. Our recommended singles of the week include Ultra, Gloria Estefan and Fatboy Slim. In our windows we are featuring Jewel, Little Voice and Offspring, which are also benefiting from co-op press ads.

At the moment, we are in the process of expanding our DVD, MiniDisc and vinyl departments as sales of all these formats are on the rise.

For 1999, we're looking forward to new albums from Underworld, Stereophonics, Gene, Blur, Kula Shaker, Letfield and also the new Star Wars soundtrack."



GAVIN MCNAMARA, SRD rep for the South West and South Wales

"Before I started this job in March, SRD didn't have a full-time rep covering the area and there has been a lot to do to establish a presence. Although in many ways the past 12 months have been hard, business is currently going very well. Stores which were unused to spending very much with SRD are now finding that they can do well with a larger range of genres.

There is definitely a January lull but most stores are very positive about the way Christmas performed. In my area, it kicked in late with a stampede in the last week. For us, the whole of the Global Underground catalogue was one of the biggest success stories. The Sasha album went like a bomb and so did Paul Oakenfold, although it has been out for quite a while. The next release scheduled for the series features Danny Tenaglia and I'm expecting a great response when I start selling it in. Low-priced sampler albums, such as

Moving Shadow's 98.2 99.2, did big business over Christmas and are still selling extremely well. Pre-sales are currently healthy on Adrian Sherwood Presents The Master Recordings on On U Sound, which will retail at £2.99.

This week I'm selling in an EP from Surreal Madrid entitled Girls Of The Night. It's a very strong beat and break tune that has had loads of radio and press. DJs are desperate for new records at this time of year and this is just the one to fill the gap.

I'm being asked a lot for Sky FX's new Bambaas mix which features Dillinja. This is one that the specialist drum & bass shops are getting excited about. We've also got some good indie product coming up. Prospects look hot for Mike Badger's album Volume released on Viper. The label was set up by the Lightning Seeds and Badger will be in the Las Vegas features Tommy from Space, so it is very indie credible."

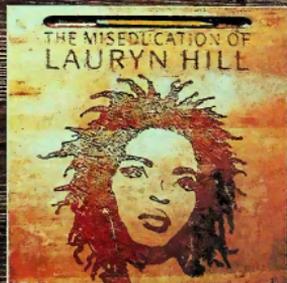




Not many albums draw these kind of reviews.

# THE MISEDUCATION OF LAURYN HILL

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