

INSIDETHIS

"ALEX IS GENUINE.
PLAINTIVE, EVEN"
TWO DOOR CINEMA CLUB'S
SECOND ALBUM: THE VERDICT



"THIS SONG IS ABOUT FIGHTING, SO DON'T BE PUSSIES!"
BAM! BLOC PARTY ARE BACK!



"WE MUST KEEP
FIGHTING FOR THEM"
THE TERRIBLE SAGA OF PUSSY
RIOT IS FAR FROM OVER...

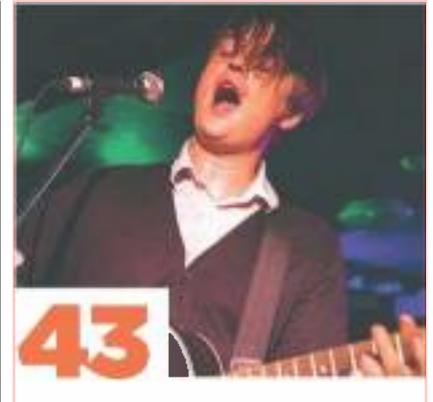
WEEK

01/09/2012

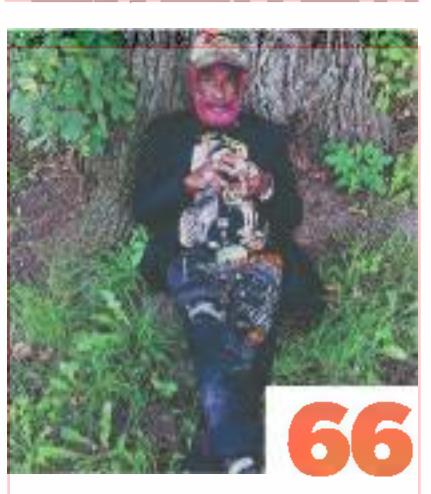


Reading and Leeds Festivals: The ultimate review!

ALL THE ACTION FROM THE WEEKEND
THE WEATHER FAILED TO SPOIL



"YOU MIGHT EXPECT A SHIT SHOWER..."
BUT HOW DID PETE'S LATEST LIVE COMEBACK TURN OUT?



"HARD WORK IS LIKE LIFE... IT IS THE ENERGY OF LIFE" ALRIGHT, LEE 'SCRATCH' PERRY, HOW GOES IT?

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ON REPEAT

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BRAINCELLS



"HE JUST SAID TO ME, 'I MAY AS WELL PLAY ON THAT" HOW EXAMPLE GOT GRAHAM COXON ON HIS NEW ALBUM

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ON REPEAT

THE SOUNDS RATTLING ROUND THE SKULLS OF THE NME STAFF THIS WEEK





TRACK OF THE WEEK

EVERYTHING EVERYTHING

Cough Cough

Everything Everything would like to grab your attention, if you please. Not something the mile-a minute freak-poppers have ever shied away from before, but recent days have seen them share a trail of enigmatic black and white images—police, burning car—burning huildings—tagged with the words "something is coming". But what? Talking to BBC 6Music earlier in the year, they promised more singable melodies. But

We've got singable melodies and actual audible words if you were afraid that after supporting Snow Patrol and working in Flbow's Manchester studio, they'd have sanded off all their lovable glitches, 'Cough Cough' puts you right (well, wrong) in about

o.3 seconds. It's got herky-jerky stop-starting and Jonathan's gabbled pleas of "Yeah, um... stop... wait a second" And sure enough, we've got singable melodies and actual audible words, Jonathan crooning "Then that Eureka moment hits you like a cop car/And you wake up just head and shoulders in a glass jur". You can also hear what they've said they did take from working in Elbow's room—a bigger, bolder sound. The rhythm builds to something almost Battles-ish, topped by a back-and-forth, barked refrain of "I'm coming alive/I'm having it now". Not such a polite excuse-me after all. Emily Mackay, writer



MADEON

In The City

Teen-Guetta Madeon follows his mini mix triumph (a gazillion tracks in five minutes) with a tribute to staying out late and pretending that there's no tomorrow. It's a lot of fun, despite sounding like the product of an illicit tumble between Phoenix and Modjo's Lady (Hear Me Tonight)'. Emelie Joy, writer

TRASH TALK

FEBN

At one minute and 39 seconds this track is practically an epic by Trash Talk's standards; and (whisper it) there's something that resembles an actual song here rather than their trademark blasts of noise. It's awesome, with the swagger of the best bits of The Bronx all over it.

Tom Goodwyn, News Reporter

KAREN O

Strange Love

What could be more perfect during this Indian summer than Karen O's heady, Calypso-rhythmed 'Strange Love'! Far from YYYs' summoning of NYC dives, one listen and we're in Hawaii, zoning out on the beach, fulled to sleep by a Theremin solo and O's sweet vocals. Smoky, stinky city be gone.

Lucy Jones, Deputy Editor, NME.COM

THE MEN

Candy

SCREW YOU THE MAN because
The Men's Jef Scott has quit his job
and can stay out all night long. HELL
YEAH! Crack out a can, 'cos this (a free
download!) is some seriously slack roadtrip rock, with enough warped riffs and
killer distortion to remind us why we love
these psych-punk-garage genre benders.
Jenny Stevens, Deputy News Editor

THE AVALANCHES

A Cowboy Overflow Of The Heart (Demo)

It's been to long years since Australian cut'n'paste wizards The Avalanches released their stunning debut 'Since I Left You'. This new demo represents their biggest flurry of activity in ages,

but please don't get excited – it's a poem about a dog with some music-like sounds in the background. Lads, can't you just make an album?

Dan Stubbs, Assistant Editor, NME.COM

TAFFY

Flower Chain

Taking mid-'90s Elastica and twinning it with the rollicking ferociousness of The Who, Japan's Taffy return sounding their best yet with 'Flower Chain. I wrically it's way pricklier than it hippyish title would suggest—concerning itself with denial, goodbyes and rage—but it's the Wire-esque guitar that wallops it across the finishing line in style.

Danielle Reed, writer

MUSE

Madness

'Survival' threatened to make jumping the shark an Olympic sport, but thankfully Bellamy's boys have finally delivered something on the back of all the talking up of 'The 2nd Law'. Muse don't do sexy very often, but when they do it like this – throbbing electro, jagged Prince guitars, euphoric thrust towards the climax—it's very sexy indeed.

ED CONGREAVE (FOALS)

Heal

It's a house tune yeeeah. By a dude (Ed Congreave) from an indic band (I oals) yeeeah. Because indie bands aren't too cool right now yeeeah. But house tunes totally are yeeeah. So stop worrying yeeeah. And have a little dance yeeeah. Because this shit is deep and we just wanna party, because it's 2012, yeeeah.

Tom 2 11 vers Editor



MOSCA FEAT KATY B

What You Came For Yeeeah, Tom, it is 2012, and we do want to dance! Especially if it's to this new Katy B vocal version of Mosca's 'Bax' beat (just as good on its own, so go buy it). She quite rightly disses any dancefloor killjoys, asking, "If you ain't moving, tell me what you came for?"

Siân Rowe, Assistant Reviews Editor

TWO DOOR CINENA CLUB

Beauti

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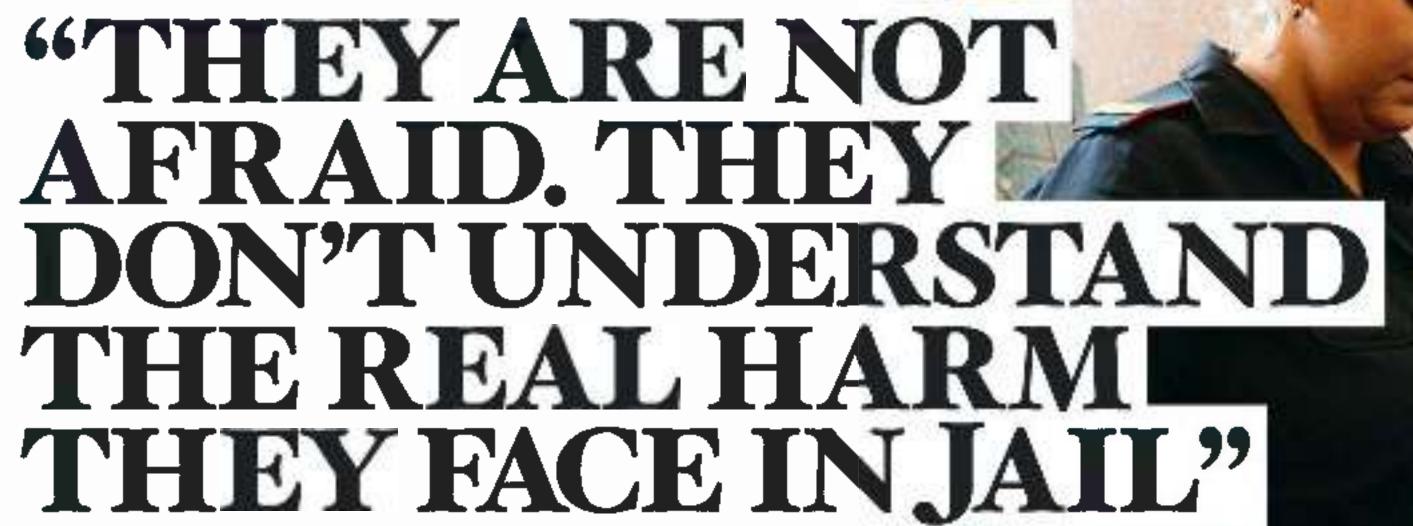
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Kitsuné

WHAT'S HAPPENED AND WHAT'S HAPPENING IN MUSIC THIS WEEK

Edited by Dan Martin



As three Russian punk women await their appeal date, the UK government is doing little to help them. After an extraordinary week of political drama, it's falling to music to try to #FreePussyRiot

SPECIAL REPORT

The show lasted less than a minute, but it landed three young women in jail for two years and shook the world awake to

the realities of Russia's political regime. As NME goes to print, Pussy Riot members Maria Alyokhina, Yekaterina Samutsevich and Nadezhda Tolokonnikova are on their way to a two-year prison sentence after being convicted of "hooliganism motivated by religious hatred". Their crime? A guerilla gig in Moscow's main cathedral calling for the Virgin Mary to protect Russia against president Vladimir Putin - whose re-election was marred by allegations of corruption. They also say the Russian Orthodox Church's creeping powers are quashing freedom

and providing a cover for Putin to stamp on the rights of women and gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people. On the very day of the sentencing, Moscow outlawed Gay Pride marches for another 100 years. As the women wait to hear the date when they can appeal their verdict, their lawyers fear the worst.

"We are fearful of their lives when they go to prison," one of their lawyers, Alisa Obraztsova, tells NME. "You cannot imagine the conditions in Russian prisons. You live in one room with over 150 people. Some of them might be murderers. Many will be religious so they might attack them. Russian state TV has run a hate campaign against Pussy Riot. But they are not afraid. They don't understand the real harm they face in jail."

Meanwhile, other members of the Russian punk collective are aware of

the fate they might face if caught. "All Obraztsova says, after Moscow police confirmed that they were looking for the other two members of the group who took part in the protest back in February, who escaped arrest with the other three in March.

"There is an arrest warrant out for the other members of Pussy R10t who were in church that day. Police can just pick up any girl on the street and arrest her for 48 hours to investigate whether she was in church that day or not. So they can't take the risk of any further protest action at the moment."

Pussy Riot members are now in hiding,"

Pussy Riot timeline

What happened when for Russian punks...

FEBRUARY

Pussy Riot perform a "punk prayer" by the altar of Moscow's Christ The Saviour Cathedral in Red Square, asking the Virgin Mary to deliver Russia from Putin.

MARCH

Vladhnir Putin is re-elected. In the wake of the protests, the

band, speaking collectively, tell AME: "We knew what the political situation was



but now we're feeling personally the full force of the Kafka-esque machine... the state's

policy is based on a minimum of critical thinking and a maximum of spite." The tiwee women are arrested and two of

them start a lunger strike from prison.

APRIL

Protestors raily outside the Russian Embassy in London. But over in Moscow, protestors are arrested. Human rights campaigner Oksana



However, musicians around the world are continuing to rally behind them from Bloc Pirty ti Midonna and Paul McCartney, det inding the right to protest through must.

Robert Lieber is coordinator of the Free Pussy Riot campaign: "Musicians showing support have been very

"The Russian media weren't listening to what they were saying. The court judge didn't listen to their defence, so they've been relying on the large microphones

Kate Nash has emerged as one such mouthpiece. "Music has the power to

important in the campaign," he says. celebrities and musicians have."



"We are fearful of their lives in prison"

PUSSY RIOT LAWYER

change the world," she says "More than a politician talking shit that no one's going to care about or relate to. But when you get a band making a protest, it inspires people. It's highlighted some really serious issues in Russia to a global audience. They've gone to prison for two years for singing a political song. Gay Pride parades in Moscow have been banned In 2012, that's seriously fucked up. Everybody has a responsibility, whether you have any connections to

Russia or not to be aware of the world. We all need to be fighting this judgement."

Emmy the Great, who has

been putting on workshops with Joe Strummer's daughter to raise awareness of Pussy Riot's plight, agrees: "This is an issue Joe Strummer would have taken to his heart - it's all about freedom of expression and the right to creative protest. As long as Pussy Riot are in jail, I'm going to keep meeting up with people and letting them know we

The British government, however, is not as vocal. A statement was issued saying that it was "deeply concerned"

was a "disproportionate response to an expression

of political belief." But a spokesperson from the Foreign Office told NME this week that they would not be making

any more representations to Russia on the case. "We can't interfere in another country's judicial system," he

said. "However, we will regularly call on Russia to protect human rights and freedom of expression."

The UK's prime minister David Cameron raised the issue with Vladimir Putin when he visited London for the Olympics - after a letter signed by Franz Ferdinand's Alex Kapranos, Jarvis Cocker and Johnny Marr called on him to do so. But a Number 10 spokesperson says he has no further plans to bring this up with Putin again, despite the sentence.

support them," she says. about the verdict, which

Chelysheva tells NME that Putin has "taken personal revenge on the band", adding, "the case has been given priority as though they were terrorists".

JULY

At a pre-trial hearing, the period of detention is

extended for another six months, although in reality a trial begins within weeks. Tolomonnikova's husband Pyotr Verzilov tells NME: "It's hard to say what will happen, but no-one has any illusions that the exact

sentence will be based on Putin's opinion and nothing else."

AUGUST

As global awareness for the case grows, Franz Ferdinand's Alex Kapranos declares them "more punk rock than

any band in decades". Putin himself steps in, saying, "There is nothing good in what they did, but I don't think they should be judged too severely." Nevertheless, the three women are found guilty and jailed for two years.





"Music has the power to change the world"

KATE NASH

But grass roots campaigns continue to happen across the world. Last week Savages and Friends got together for a fundraiser in London, and another one is planned for next week, with New Young Pony Club, Esben And The Witch and Peggy Sue. A global day of action in support of Pussy Riot is being planned to a September 15.

"Any mu waan who plays in Moscow should be peaking out for Pussy Riot," says Robert Lieber.

"It's so important to keep fighting for them," Kate Nash affirms. "We need to keep speaking to get them out of prison. I would be really disappointed if there were any bands performing in Russia who didn't say anything. As an

You have a voice and you can make a difference, says NME Editor Mike Williams



A few hours after the jailing of Pussy Riot, Sam Duckworth

of Get Cape. Wear Cape. Fly tweeted: "Solidarity is more than a hashtag. Musicians of Twitter, Pussy Riot are our sisters. What are we going to do about this? #freepussyriot"

While the wealth of support that Pussy Riot have received from highprofile musicians around the world has been impressive, **Sam i**s right that it takes more than turning the band into a trending topic to actually make a difference. David Cameron and the Foreign Office have

already washed their hands of the case. So once again it falls to us as citizens of a free and liberal country to stand up for Maria, Nadezhda and Yekaterina, three young women whose crime is to have offended a politician's pride by protesting against his re-election as President; and an ideology which they do not believe in. This is not a case of "religious hatred", as the judge called it. It's a case of scapegoating and facesaving on Putin's part. So what can you do? Write to your local MP and demand that Britain doesn't turn its back on Pussy Riot. Contact details can be found at www.parliament.

uk/about/contacting/ mp/. If you're thinking that one person can't make a difference, then remember that together we're stronger and that in order to be heard we need to shout - because we live in a country where we won't get thrown in jail for it. Protests and days of action are taking place with increasing regularity across the UK. By following the likes of Kate Nash on Twitter you can find out when these are happening and how to get involved. It's not a crime to protest against something you don't believe in. We must remember that, and show support of three women who aren't so lucky.

artist you have the power to change the world and change history. That's the point of art - to be free to say what you think and care about and we must fight for that."

For now, as the three women await their appeal, still separated from their families and children, lawyers believe

the pressure will need to be kept on to topple the decision of a defiant Putin.

"We've learned not to expect much in Russia," Alisa Obraztsova says. "They may reduce their sentence for half a year, but we are not expecting them to be released. It would mean Putin would have lost and he will never do that."

Messages of support

Musicians speak out for free expression

PAUL MCCARTNEY



⊌any peopl@ in the civilised world are allowed to voice their opinions **as** long as they do not hurt anyone in doing

so. I believe this is the best way forward for all societies. I hope you can stay strong and believe that I and many others like me who believe in free speech will do everything in our power to support you and the idea of artistic freedom."

BJÖRK



"In my opinion the Russian authorities should let them go home to their families and children... as a musician and a

mother I would like to express I fiercely don't agree with them being put in jail because of their peaceful protest performance."

GRIMES



"I went to school in Russia for a while, so I'm very familiar with it. It's funny to me because I think a lot of people are just

realising now how fucked up Russia is. I'm not surprised at all that this situation is happening. I think it's something that happens more than people know."

KRIST NOVOSELIC



*Two years, harsh sentence for Pussy Riot. Disproportionate for such a prank. #pussyriot"

MADONNA



"I protest the conviction. The sentence is too harsh and is inhumane. I call on all those who love freedom to condemn this

unjust punishment. I urge artists around the world to speak up in protest against the travesty. They've spent enough time in jail. I call on all of Russia to let Pussy Riot go free."

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THIS WEEK



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WHAT BLUR DID NEXT!

ALL ABOARD THE AFRICA EXPRESS!

Albarn's cross-cultural exchange returns for another year

oving away from the ambiguity that surrounds Blur's future, next week sees Damon Albarn return to the role of conductor on his long-running Africa Express project. The roll-call of names on this year's journey includes Carl Barât, Jack Steadman and, er, Rizzle Kicks, who will join African artists including Spoek Mathambo, Amadou & Mariam and Tony Allen on a series of dates around England, Scotland and Wales, starting September 3 in Middlesbrough.

Now in its seventh year, the latest Africa Express promises to be a gig like no other: the multi-hour sets will be improvised and off-the cuff, with new songs and jams being worked out en route on the train that will take the artists from town to town. One of those



taking part is Yeah Yeah Yeahs guitarist Nick Zinner, who told NME that he regards the project as "an automatic go for me, in any

way that I can be involved".

A staunch convert this will be the third year in a row Zinner has joined Africa Express. He describes his first trip to Ethiopia with the

collective in 2010 as "one of the greatest experiences of my life", and fondly recalls one night when "30 of us took over this bar and were jamming for three hours with a roomful of Ethiopian people jumping up and down, dancing. It was incredible, in every possible way".

Conceived as a travelling musician's workshop/transcontinental mash-up, Zinner believes Africa Express provides a journey of discovery not just for its European and American participants, but for its African ones as well "It's a symbiotic, two-way relationship," he says. "I've loved I thiopian music from the '60s and '70s since I was a teenager, and so many rhythms we take for granted come from Africa. But it's not just the westerners picking things up from Africans, it's an exchange."

This enthusiasm is shared by Nneka, a Nigerian singer songwriter who is one of this year's first-time participants. She believes that the event's remit goes beyond mere musical diplomacy. "Artists in today's world like to compete with one another." Nneka says. "We've forgotten how to work together and create and be passionate and love what we're doing. Instead, we think about competition and the money and the fame and the limelight, which is very sad. Music should remind us of where we're coming from, which is why I wanted to take part in this. Africa Express is a great opportunity, and it's a good thing that it exists."

COXON JOINS EXAMPLE

raham Coxon has joined Example!"
Elliot Gleave himself sounds like he can't quite believe that he's snared the Blur hero to play guitar on his forthcoming fourth album, 'The Evolution Of Man', But after announcing his

decision to "go rock", he had a plan to silence the naysayers. "Even though it's an electronic album with loads of bass and pop choruses, there's going to be people going, 'Why's Example making a rock album, leave it alone'. So I said to him, 'It'd be amazing if you could come and play on a few tracks, because it's almost like a fingers up to everyone else'"

Coxon plays on four tracks: 'Crying Out For Help', 'Snakeskin', the Zane Lowe-produced 'Blood I rom A Stone' and 'Say Nothing'. The pair met at a War Child event where Graham was performing with Damon. They were introduced through



Coxon's nephew, and Gleave decided that if he didn't ask, he wouldn't get.

He recalls: "I went round to his house,

played him the whole album and he chose the tracks he wanted to play on He's the loveliest fella; I must've been round his house for a couple of hours,

met his missus, had a bit of banter, and then booked in the studio a week later."

Elliot seems to be quite the toast of Britpop royalty, having shared handshakes with both Ian Brown and Noel Gallagher at V Festival.

"They were quite

"They were quite complimentary about the show," he says

A BIG CHEESY FESTIVAL

"Man, I haven't seen a bong

like that in years!"



disaster that was his Harvest Festival last year (or 'Worstival' as it's since become known). Alex James has teamed up with foodie overlord Jamie Oliver for The Big Feastival, a celebration of music and eating. The even takes place

at Churchill Heath Farm, the site of Alex's cheesemaking

empire, from August 31 to September 2. Music comes from the likes of Gaz Coombes, Noisettes, Guillemots and - oh, yes - Razorlight. Yum.



Not to be outdone, Dave's been hanging out online, retweeting articles about Pussy Riot.

UPFRONT



BLOC PARTY'S TINY COMEBACK

With Four'skirting the Top 10, Kele and co go underground for their sweatiest gig ever

hey start arriving at 5am, first in dribs and drabs, then in their tens and their hundreds. By lunchtime, the small strip of Kingsland Road normally reserved for the drunken antics of east London's trendy elite is transformed into a wall of expectant Bloc Party fans They're queuing for a chance to see their favourite band perform their most intimate show in years, in the basement of 250-capacity venue Birthdays.

This miniscule impromptu gig was organised to mail the release of Bloc Party's new album, 'Four' A few hours before the band take to the stage, it's announced that the album is Number Two in the midweek charts, just a couple of hundred copies behind Emeli Sandé. There's a celebratory atmosphere, and a couple of bottles of champagne on ice in Bloc Party's dressing room.

They play several new songs from 'Four',

as well as some of their biggest tunes from 'Silent Alarm', 'A Weekend In The City' and 'Intimacy'. Meanwhile, down the front, their fans include in raucous behaviour reminiscent of early Bloc Party shows in New Cross and Camden: the show has to be stopped several times so fans can move back and avoid trampling each other and the band

Despite the threat of danger, Kele Okereke is in jokey mood. "Take a good look at my face "he tells fans, "because if I lose any teeth I'm going to lose this beautiful smile." I ater, he goads them with a yell of, 'This song's about fighting! So don't be pussies, Birthdays'

Kele also shows his support for the jailed Russian punk group Pussy Riot. "This next song is about standing up for what you believe in, and I'd like to dedicate it to them," he announces before launching into 'Kettling', a song inspired by last year's student protests in London.

The evening climaxes with an encore of new single 'Octopus' and a chorus of Rihanna's 'We Found Love', which merges into 'Flux'. Whatever the chart placing, this was a sweet victory.



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Q&A: KELE OKEREKE

NME: Sog Kelezza hogi was the show? "I think that's the sweatiest gig we've ever played. I was just super-worried that someone was going to get hurt."

> Does it feel like you've never been away?

"It's been a good week." I feel a bit sick and jetlagged – we've been in lots of continents over the past few weeks but it's nice seeing the hard work pay off. We get on the bus now to go back to Germany, so we can't party too hard, but it'll be nice to have a little bit of a celebration."

What would it mean to get a Top Three record? /ou know_a it would be nice. I am very proud of this album. But I'm also just happy that anyone likes it. For a long time we didn't even think there was going to be a record, so everyone responding so well is good enough for me."

HYDE PARK ROW ROARS ON (WELL, AT LEAST SOMETHING IS LOUD)

The row keeps growing after Blur's oh-so-quiet Hyde Park gig

ast week, NME questioned the future of live music in London's Hyde Park after a summer of low volume, complaints and pulled

plugs. We've now heard back from the local Belgravia Residents Association, and what the chair had to say is not likely to reassure any concerned parties: "I agree that paying for a concert and not

being able to hear it is nonsense," said James White, after the outcry over the sound at Blur's show. "However, the issue of having concerts in the park is also nonsense. The Royal Parks were created and donated to the public for 'quiet enjoyment' and were never meant to be used for commercial purposes... in the last few years there has been backlash from residents about the horrific noise emanating from the concerts, petty theft and awful rubbish tips." He also advises fans not to shoot the messenger. "We now have strict cut-off times and decibel levels for gigs. Personally, I think the levels are too low, but I merely act as a 'go-between', and I speak as a man who went deaf for three days following a Who concert." Scant reassurance, perhaps?



Everyone's favourite hipster Timelord returns to TV this week. But soon he could be heading somewhere far greener – Glastonbury. We asked Matt Smith if he thought The Doctor would be down with the Stone Circle. "I think he'd love it," he said. "I don't see why not. Glasto is brilliant."

Smith joined Orbital onstage at Glasto two years ago to dance to their version of the *Doctor Who* theme. He was also spotted at Green Man last week.

LAST CHANCE
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PHOTGRAPHY

It's your last chance to get your entries in for the NME Music Photography Awards with Nikon. So if you've been at Reading and Leeds with your camera, be sure to get your best shots to us by September 12. Entries are welcome from both professional and amateur photographers, and entries will be judged by a panel including Dean Chalkley, winner of last year's Outstanding Contribution To Music Photography award, NME Editor Mike Williams and NME Picture Director Zoe Capstick. Categories include live, portrait, reportage, festivals, under-

AWARDS

21 and professional, and there are Nikon cameras to win in each category. For full details, visit www.nme. com/photoawards2012. Happy snapping!





WIN TICKETS FOR FESTIVAL NO.6

As the summer festival season draws to a close. there's still time for one more blowout before calling it a day. Festival No.6 offers a new take on the theme, in the North Wales village of Portmeirion - the set of seminal cult TV show The Prisoner, Think ATP meets Hay-on-Wye, as the entire village is turned into an Avalon of music, food, arts and literature. The line-up is topped by Spiritualized, Primal Scream and New Order, with Toy, Jessie Ware and British Sea Power also playing. Plus there'll be appearances

and talks from the likes of Grace Dent, John Niven and Caitlin Moran. It all takes place on September 14-16. And we've got five pairs of tickets to give away! Boom!

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READING AND LEEDS: HOW WAS IT FOR YOU?

NME_COM/video We quiz bands and fans alike on Reading and Leeds 2012: the highs,

the lows, and who stole the show.



THE CHARLATANS HAIL IAN CURTIS

tinyuri.com/ckztddx It's not all blowing coke up each other's hums. The Charlatans also love the gloomy desolation of Joy Division, as they explain here.



THE KILLERS TALK 'BATTLE BORN'

tinyuri.com/biv4nd8 Backstage at 02 Academy Leeds, we chat to The Killer's about their new album 'Battle Born', London 2012 and the state of pop music.



DAVID BOWIE GEEK HEAVEN

Linyuri.com/chgajx9 Think you know everything there is to know about David Bowie? Bet you don't know everything in our Info-packed Geeky Facts video...

WHAT DO WE DO ABOUT THE PISS-BOTTLE THROWERS?

After Cher Lloyd gets covered with urine at V Festival, Ailbhe Malone and **Ben Hewitt** wonder whether it's time to fight piss with shit



AILBHE We have to applaud, I suppose, the dextenty involved in managing to piss in a bottle in the first place. And then, if

we're assessing the action, it takes a true aim to lob a heavy missile onto the stage. And to make it hit your target? Well done. Olympic gold medal. The actions at V are less indicative of festival lolz, and more of a certain type of punter. The kind of douche that calls himself (or herself, let's not presume) the Archbishop of Banterbury. The kind of person that draws a willy on their sleeping friend's forehead in permanent marker the day before a job interview. You don't find it funny? Well, you've got no sense of humour, mate. Why are you even at gigs, instead of watching Two And A Half Men on Comedy Central +1 in your pants? Just chuck them out.



BEN Too right, Ailbhe. Have you ever tried cajoling a flaccid penis into life while sozzled, and then dribbling out half

a thimbleful of urine into a small plastic hole? It's a logistical nightmare. And it's a minor miracle anyone's rude bits functioned at V Festival at all: just the mere knowledge I was using the same sewage system as Gary Lightbody would have been enough to make mine shrivel up forever. You'd have to be an utter cretin to condone chucking a bottle of piss at poor Cher, of course, and even more reprehensible to actually do it, whatever you think of her songs. But here's the rub: no matter how irksome the louts are, they've forked out their hard-earned cash to be at the same gig as you, too, and as long as they're just merely annoying and not actually hurting anyone, they've got just as much right to be there. There's nothing you or I can do about it.

AILBHE Yes, but assaulting someone with a bottle of bodily fluids is a little off centre of what paying for a day ticket earns you. We can't chuck pissthrowing in with the rest of festival behaviour like waving flags, projectile vomiting and buying overpriced pies. Instead of banning it, why don't we instead confront those who do it? Take the whizz-wangler by the ear, and introduce them to the target. Don't forget that while acts onstage are often



the aim, innocent bystanders also get caught in the crossfire. Let's bring the culprit over to their fellow festival-goer, who's now soaked in urine, and introduce them. Doubt it'll seem so enjoyable then.

BEN But bottling is a longstanding festival tradition, and one that's not just the preserve of braindead Inbetweeners-types.

Since time immemorial (make that the

'70s), rowdy punters have hurled objects at crap singers in mud and boozesoaked fields. I don't want anyone to get doused with urine, either, but Cher's not the first unfortunate soul to be pelted with unsavoury items. The Mars Volta got piss thrown at them in 2006; My Chemical Romance were hammered with bottles at Download; Daphne & Celeste had a bloody frozen chicken and an electric wheelchair aimed at their bonces at Reading in 2000. And if Ms Lloyd and The X Factor crew wanna be part of this world, they'll just have to

brave the piss-bottle gauntlet. When Green Day were getting pelted with mud at Woodstock '94, Billie Joe Armstong just started throwing it back. Maybe Cher should have just responded in kind by weeing in her own bottle, and chucking it at the perpetrator nobody would dare dream of jagging her

swagger then.

Cher's not the first to be pelted with unsavoury items

AILBHE That's a bit like saying that if you're offended by monkeys at the zoo throwing poo

at you, one should respond in kind. Soz mate, but I'm not flinging crap to make a point. Just because there's precedent doesn't mean it's OK. And the fact that this happened the week before Zayn from One Direction left his Twitter after a barrage of abusive messages would suggest that pop-star bullying really is a thing.

BEN Well, you do make a good point there. Internet comments sections have expanded the practice even further. And they really can stink of shit.

Pieces Of Me TODDLAT

A 'banging' Meat Loaf gig, Bros and MC Hammer's big trousers are unlikely inspirations for Sheffield's own superstar DJ

My first album BROS - 'PUSH'

"I was given a tape player by my mum and dad for my birthday and my sister bought me a Bros tape. To be honest, who wouldn't be excited by a Bros tape? The first album I actually bought in a shop would have been a 'Now That's What I Call Music!' compilation when I was about eight years old. They were great for getting all the pop stuff you used to listen to on the radio in one place. When I was a kid and heard a good tune, I always knew they'd be on the comp."

My first gig MEAT LOAF, SHEFFIELD ARENA

"The first concert I ever went to was Meat Loaf at Sheffield Arena with my dad. 'I'd Do Anything For Love (But I Won't Do That)' was on *Top Of The Pops* all the time and I was well into it. We bought our tickets from a tout outside and it was banging. There was loads of fire and shit like that. We still talk about that gig, actually!"

The first song I ever fell in love with MC HAMMER - 'U CAN'T TOUCH THIS'

"My sister used to buy Smash Hits and one of my earliest memories is being into MC Hammer's 'U Can't Touch This' because of the poster on the wall with the big ol' trousers. I thought that record was totally brilliant. MC Hammer was the shit."

My favourite new DJs RUDIMENTAL

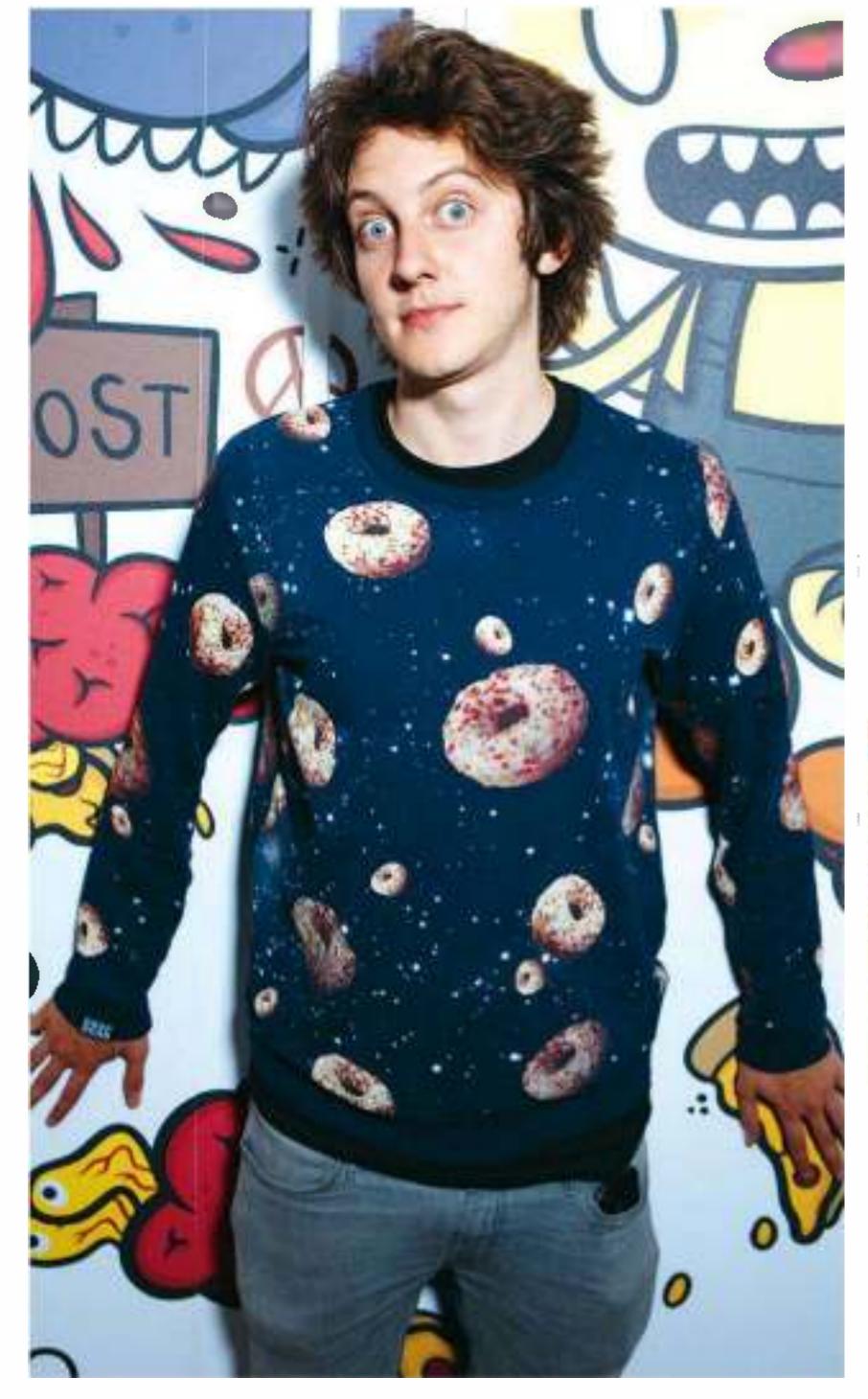
"I saw Rudimental at Hideout Festival in Croatia. They were playing big tunes, heritage stuff that referenced the funnew things – and they kept it bumping. Sometimes you go to a rave and you hear the same fucking sound for eight hours. Dubstep and bass music is so popular and it can be, like, a screech for eight hours. That's fucking boring. Hike it when DJs say, "Well, this is where I come from" and represent that in their set."

Favourite television show BREAKING BAD

"Right now Breaking Bad is my shit! It's so clever and so addictive... Generally, though, I don't get much time to watch TV and when I'm watching it on my laptop I feel guilty, like I should be making beats. I try and do it when I'm at home and try to switch off. Although, it doesn't really switch you off!"

My favourite track right now NAS - 'CHERRY WINE'

"I think 'Cherry Wine' could be one of his biggest tracks ever. It's emotional but the



beat is really rugged and raw. It's Nas being back to what he's all about, with that soul edge."

My favourite place SHEFFIELD

"There's no place like home! When I go back to Sheffield I feel so relaxed, so warm. There's a genuine atmosphere there. The more time I spend away, the more I realise how special it is. My biggest fanbase is there by a long shot, so I always have an amazing time when I DJ. My friends come out, I play alongside them, wake up in the morning and have some good food."

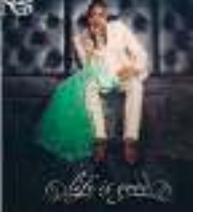
My favourite remix ROOTS MANUVA - 'DUB COME SAVE ME'

"It's a classic re-do of 'Run Come Save Me'. It's so intricate and so smart in how it pays homage to dub music. It stands as an album by itself and could have been his next release because it's so sonically and lyrically amazing. I love it when he does soundsystem. It's Roots Manuva at his best."











Clockwise from main: Dough-not adjust your eyes; Meat Loaf rocks out; a scene from Breaking Bad; the sleeve of Nas' 'Life Is Good', which features 'Cherry Wine'; cheer up Rudimental, Toddia loves yai; one of the comps in Toddia's beloved 'Now!' series

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Wanters

THE NX

coang habs.

DELAHIC

GREEN BAY

Hear the chart rundown first every Monday at 7pm on NIVE Radio

The MAK Chart is immysted each week by NME Restroated to based on how many times each to tack has been player on the studen ever the previous sevendays.



MYSTIC GAV

NME oracle Gavin Haynes looks deep into his pint glass to predict the events rocking the music world in the week ahead



Wednesday

BLACK TO THE FUTURE

While police investigate the theft of will.i.am's DeLorean, an underworld snitch will come forward with a tipoff. The last he heard it was being installed with a flux capacitor, loaded with a shotgun, revved to 88 mph and programmed by some guy muttering about "saving music for everyone" to return to the Black Eyed Peas' first gig. A few hours later, no-one will have any idea what a will.i.am is or was.

Thursday **ROTH JUSTICE?**

With the news that the £148 million EuroMillions lottery winner is hoping to use part of his money to reunite the classic line-up of Guns N' Roses, a coalition of starving children in Somalia will write an open letter to The Times begging him to reconsider and use the money for something truly worthwhile instead, like reuniting the original line-up of Van Halen.

Friday JOKE OF AN APOLOGY

In the aftermath of Killing Joke's frontman having resurfaced in the Western Sahara after a fortnight of

Aping Cheryl Cole, Mo Farah lip-syncs badly to some Rihanna offcuts

being declared "missing", the other band members will sheepishly admit that the whole thing was a bit of a misunderstanding. When Jaz Coleman said he was going to visit "probably the most obscure place on earth", they'd all assumed he was seeking a record

store that still stocks their stuff.

Saturday MO GOES COLE MIMING

After pictures surface of Cheryl Cole doing the Mobot, a humbled Mo Farah will respond in kind by performing Cheryl's signature gesture at his next track meet. Sadly, lip-syncing badly to some Rihanna offcuts doesn't prove to be as visual.

Sunday 'SNAKE - THE PITS

As a woman in Newport sues the council after slipping on a pile of vomit at a Whitesnake concert, court papers will make clear that the reason she is suing isn't because she sustained any physical injury in the fall. Her affidavit will state that she became clinically depressed shortly after realising that slipping on vomit at a Whitesnake concert in Newport is probably the closest to rock bottom any human being can ever get.

Monday CREATIVITY GONE TO POT

Soon after announcing that she has given up weed, in a new interview Bethany Cosentino will tell hacks that the reason she has stopped is simply because all that mary-jane haze was getting in the way of her increasingly demanding schedule of writing slackas-fuck songs about smoking weed and doing nothing. Now that she's teetotal, she will point out, she has loads more productive time in which to muse on eating cereal, staring at her toes and laughing inanely about continuity errors in '90s kids cartoons during mid-

Tuesday **COWELL'S LOAD OF ARSE**

afternoon viewing sessions.

After Elton John flashes his bum at Simon Cowell, disgusted spectators will file an indecency complaint with the cops, stating that they are unhappy at having been forced to stare at this grotesque ancient flabby pink arse. Misunderstanding, police will arrest the X Factor mogul.

Birthday Runes

REDFOO, LMFAO (Born September 3, 1975) Redfoo, son of

Motown's Berry Gordy. You have done your father proud. You have created a music that all drunk people in sportswear can grind to. Your gift will be called into action when a bomb planted on a drunk couple grinding in

sportswear will explode unless they

grind above a certain rate of pelvic thrust. You will be challenged to come up with an series of oily two-note synth-riffs and shout-out hooks in order to keep them grinding. Stay level-headed and remember your mentor, PT Barnum: "No-one ever failed because they underestimated the stupidity of the general public."

KAFI GREGORSKY

RADAR

FUTURE STARS, BREAKING SCENES, NEW SOUNDS

Edited by Matt Wilkinson



STEALING SHEEP

Nail-painting, wolf-drawing, Scandinavian-influenced Scousers go trippy

s it gross if I paint my nails right here?" Stealing Sheep's Emily Lansley is pulling out bottles of nail varnish from a bag stuffed with a raggle-taggle assortment of clothes that wouldn't have been out of place in Janis Joplin's dressing room. The bemused lunchtime hordes in Radar's local greasy spoon look on as she paints each nail a vivid shade of lilac and gold, pausing to wipe an ink smudge off her arm. "I was painting a wolf on the train down here," she says, as if this is nothing more than a standard commuter pursuit. "It's a poster for a mate's band."

Emily does illustration in her spare time, bandmate Becky Hawley explains before reeling off a heaving list of arts and music projects that brought Stealing Sheep together two years ago. These include, rather brilliantly, a "Balkan gypsy dance troupe" where they found final member Lucy Mercer.

It's this pick'n'mix ragbag of influences that has led to 'Into The Diamond Sun', the band's beguiling debut LP, which – to our ears, at least – pairs the freak-folk sensibilities of Vashti Bunyan with Warpaint's scuzzed-out psychedelia. "I don't really get the 'Scouse Warpaint' connection", says Becky. "I've

been with friends before now and Warpaint have come on the radio and they've gone, 'Oh, it's Stealing Sheep!' They literally thought it was us playing. It's flattering, but our music is different. We're pretty eclectic."

She's not wrong—it turns out there's even some hardcore Scandinavian metal in the band, as Becky explains: "The name Stealing Sheep comes from this Norwegian death metal band, Enslaved. They stole sheep from this politician who tried to legalise the free download of music in Norway. As a protest, they were like, 'Well we're gonna download your sheep then!"

With the album released on Monday, the trio say they're currently focusing on jazzing up their live set with some novel costume ideas. "We're working on getting lights in our stage costumes that are triggered by the frequencies in our music," Lucy says. "I really want to see how different our music feels depending on the fabrics we're wearing. We really want to develop that visual aesthetic alongside the music onstage." Knowing these three, it looks like it's gonna be an amazingly trippy show. *Jenny Stevens*

NEED TO KNOW

Bunyan, Alt-J
BASED: Liverpool
SEE THEM LIVE: A UK tour
is planned for November
and December
BUY IT NOW: 2011's EP 'Noah
& The Paper Moon' is available
to buy now, with debut album
'Into The Diamond Sun' out
on Monday (September 3)
BELIEVE IT OR NOT: Emily won
a quiz show called Pop Upstairs
Downstairs on Radio 1's Mark &
Lard show in the late '90s



EGYPTIANHIP HOP: "NO, WE HAVEN'T SPLIT"

A full two years after they burst onto the scene, the Mancunians tell all about their debut album



Until a couple of weeks ago, we kind of assumed Egyptian Hip Hop had 'done a Joe Lean'. It had been two years since

anyone had heard from the precocious Mancunian quartet, one of 2010's most talked about new bands, and whose debut album had long seemed conspicuous by its absence. And then 'SYH' cropped up online. A brilliantly murky and oblique taster of their finally finished debut (titled 'Good Don't Sleep' and due for release on October 22), it served to remind us just why EHH were so buzzed about in the first place. But, as frontman Alex Hewett explains, its genesis was not easy.

"When we started we kind of knew that we hadn't touched anywhere near to the potential of what we could do," he tells Radar, adding that at one point the band discarded everything they'd done and started again from scratch. "We didn't enjoy being judged on that

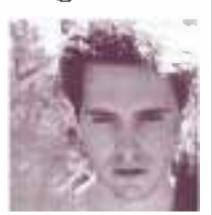
old music. You see bands come out as this new, hot thing, then the album comes out, you enjoy it for two months and then a year later you can never imagine listening to it again. We didn't want our album to sound that way."

Recorded with Wild Beasts producer Richard Formby and released through Belgian indie R&S (better known for working with James Blake and Aphex Twin), Hewett reckons 'Good Don't Sleep' will surprise and confound people. "Half of it is gonna sound like what you might've expected a couple of years ago," he says, "but the other half is a bit further out there. It might take people a year or two to get into."

The immediate reaction to 'SYH', however, has been stellar - something Hewett admits he didn't expect after two years away.

"People assumed we'd split up!" he laughs. "We were worried it'd go really badly, that we'd come back and everyone had decided they didn't want to listen to us. Luckily, that's not happened." Barry Nicolson

BAND CRUSH



Purity Ring's Corin Roddick on bis new favourite band "The singer of Braids, Raphael, has a side-project called Blue Hawaii. They're poppy but really cool. They put out a self-titled EP last year, which was probably one of my favourite releases from Montreal. It's much more electronic than Braids; the only thing that sounds like them is the vocals. So it's not so textured and deep, but it's immediate and joyful."

The Buzz

The rundown of the music and scenes breaking forth from the underground this week



TEMPLES

They come from Kettering. They sound like The Turtles with a splash of doe-eyed Stone Roses thrown in for good measure. Or The Coral, back when The Coral were happy to jump around stages screaming sea shanties with lyrics about having plant roots for legs. They channel, variously, Jack Nitzsche, Gretsch guitars, Kenneth Anger films and record shopping. They're called Temples and they have at least four great songs on their YouTube channel. With The Horrors on board, booking them for their Cave Club night on September 15, and a host of labels chomping to get their pawprints, they're also well worth your time. As is their next gig, with fellow Radar tips Charlie Boyer & The Voyeurs, at The Social in London next Tuesday (Sep 4).



2 WALL'S DEBUT GIG

The first signing to the newly launched Black Cab Sessions label (named, handily, BCS Records), Wall's debut gig at London's Sebright Arms was a near-instant sellout. Cloaked in enigmatic wooziness, the femalefronted trio trade in eerie yet soul-stirring dreamscapes, the best of which is the forthcoming single, 'Magazine'.



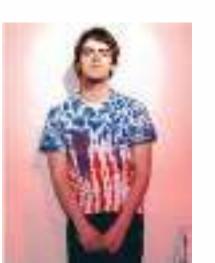
3 NUDE BEACH

Sounding 99.9 per cent like Elvis Costello in his Stiff days, the New Yorkers' new album 'II' is an all-out winner. Magically, they somehow manage to come across as being retro without turning into a Strokes pastiche. Been a long time since we've been able to say that about a band from the Big Apple.



4 BURNS' 'LIES'

Like 'You've Got The Love' (in reverse), DJ/producer Burns' latest dance anthem 'Lies' is suitably massive (he's rumoured to be working on Rihanna's new album). 'Lies' starts with a heartbroken vocal of "you've been cheating", before settling into industrial DOOF DOOF synths and spiritual flutters. Need we say more?



5 RYAN HEMSWORTH

Having caught our attention with bootleg remixes of Grimes and Frank Ocean earlier this year, Canadian producer Ryan Hemsworth has originals to back the buzz too. Taken from the 'Last Words' EP, 'Charly Wingate' (named after incarcerated rapper Max B) is full of skittering MPC action atop a huge, bassy backdrop.





KAUFESI

LONDON, HACKNEY DOWNS STUDIOS SUNDAY, AUĞUST 19

Hackney's annual one-day festival showcases a cross-continental mix of new faces – and turns into the summer's sweatiest event

ere it not for the hastily stuck-up signs guiding our way to this year's Radfest, the trail of cool twentysomethings necking K cider on kerbs and walls would be directions enough. This year, the event is held in a big studio-cum-warehouse space. As you arrive you're greeted by a fashion blogger taking photos of any part of your outfit deemed 'on trend'. It's all very east London, but the undeniable quality of the line-up means the hipster factor is a by-product rather than a starting block. Now in its fourth year, Radfest is a ventable magnet for any buzz-worthy band with a penchant for acid-wash denim. Last year saw the likes of Gross Magic, Mazes and Trash Talk, and this year the promoters have outdone themselves yet again.

Top of the buzz pile are DHV - playing their debut UK gig to the biggest crowd of the day and justifying every ounce of hype with ease. Revving up their gauzy, shoegaze tinges with an energetic live show, Z Cole Smith and his crew

bound and weave their way around the stage, concocting a giddy mix that's sonically true to recent LP 'Oshin' and yet captivatingly present and exciting. 'How Long Have You Known' takes the unbearably intense heat and fills it with something so heady and all-enveloping you want to pass out and fall in completely, while closer 'Doused' - their spikiest offering - is a more urgent, yet no less blissful, punch. Not bad for a first outing. Before the New Yorkers can charm everyone into a sun-bleached stupor,

however, comes a bit of a mixed bag. In terms of making a first impression, 30 minutes is a long time. For Halls - the project of London-based Sam Howard (buoyed by a three-piece live band) - this works in their favour. With the pained onstage demeanour of a man who would rather be standing in front of a firing line, it takes a little while for Howard to settle into his spot. Face screwed up, body twitching like a terrified, schoolboy Ian Curtis, Halls' grandiose, sample-heavy sound is as enrapturing as the frontman's persona is strangely uncomfortable. After a while, however, the two gel - the wall

of drum sounds (live, plus samples, plus occasional extra snare) and intense Radiohead-isms acting as a visceral backbone to the singer's pained, vocal exorcisms. By the end, Howard might be some kind of twisted genius.

Taking the less advisable route (ie, from good to shit) is Maria Minerva-the witch-house Grimes. Toting the same basic set-up as the Canadian pop elf, Minerva's live-mixing-plus-vocals arrangement is bound to draw comparison. The difference, however, is that where Miss Boucher radiates likeability and fun, Minerva seems irritatingly self-

indulgent. There are flashes of brilliance -in her mutant Gary Numan vocals or the occasional discordant Crystal Castlesisms - but as Minerva repeatedly yelps "Yeah, right on" like the least convincing rapper ever, the swarms of people making

with The Vaccines in November - how did that come about? "I've never met or seen them, but I've heard tour with a band that it makes it a challenge their London show is It'll be insane!"

them. We always wanna has a different audience; for us. We're designed to work in a basement, and about 10,000 capacity.

an exodus are proof that no-one's really down with this at all, yo.

gabriel eruce:

almights

How do you solve a problem like

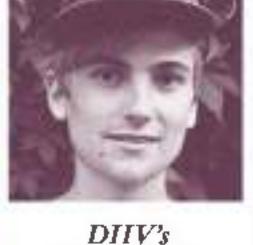
Marta Minerval

Gabriel Bruce is also, quite possibly, insane. He looks like Win Butler, dances like Shakin' Stevens, gravels statements like "Sex is all we have in this world..." and croons with a Josh Homme-worthy baritone. Then, after a jazzhands-toting run through 'Dark Lights, Shine Loud', the power goes off. A man yells "Put a donk on it, son!", Bruce leads the crowd in a rendition of 'Happy Birthday Radfest', proceeds to have a fake emotional breakdown ("All I wanted to do was entertain you...") and then leaves. Amazing.

It's left to the garage-rock contingent to save the day. Virals hold up the nostalgic end of the spectrum, dousing the bratty charms of 'Coming Up With The Sun' with saccharine '60s hooks, while FIDLAR bring the riffs and Jacuzzi Boys (a better-behaved counterpart to Black Lips) pack out their

room with fun, snottily hedonistic cuts from LP 'Glazin", proving that sometimes, you don't need any other tricks than three chords and zero morals.

Radfest, then-pretty much does what it says on the tin. Lisa Wright



QUESTION

AND

ANSWER

Z Cole Smith

That was your first UK show... happy with it? "I haven't digested it yet! It was way more packed than I was expecting. The sound was terrible, but it wouldn't be a proper DIIV show without something going wrong."

Are you feeling the pressure?

"Everyone at home has seen us grow, but here people only have the record and shitty YouTube videos. Our live show is meant to be different; you wouldn't think we'd be jumping around like assholes, but we do."

You're back touring





a decade. It's little surprise, then, that when NME speaks to the band at the plush Soho Hotel a few hours ahead of said show, we find them in buoyant mood

"I've been walking around Hyde Park all day," Tré tells us, before giving a blow-by-blow account of what "the Olympic trail" is actually like. Essentially: "I walked for fueling four hours around your whole bastard city! I literally just got back! So this is good timing, right?!"

He's not wrong. Two minutes later Mike Dirnt and Billie Joe briskly stroll in. Straight away, they're kidding around as talk turns to Reading. Little do they realise that in just over 24 hour 'time, said gig will almost have to be pulled due to concerns that, uh, things might just get a little hairy if 180,000 people all cram into a tent the size of your local Tesco Express to see one of the world's biggest bands let off some steam

But more of that later. Today, we're after the lowdown on Green Day's new album(s). How, exactly, can a band who've spent the past six years firmly in the mainstream consciousness find a prosperous life after it? "These past few months have been probably the funnest time we've ever had," Billie Joe answers. In retrospect, the singer says he thinks the band were "done" by the time they wrapped up their American Idiot musical last year "The end of that era," he muses, feigning exhaustion. "After that, we knew we had to start pounding the songs out again like it was the first time we'd ever been in a band. So that's what we did - just the three of us and Jason [White, long-term extra guitarist] with a small set-up."

Billie Joe: "It's timing we're in Paris straight after Reading so we couldn't make Leeds. We just flew in from Japan too, so we've kinda been around the world in three days. We're at warp speed right now."

Mike: "Totally, I'd really like to come just as a spectator some day." Billie Joe: "The first time we played here, we were sandwiched between Hole and Smashing Pumpkins." Tré: "Didn't our equipment show up,

like, two minutes

before showtime?"

Billie Joe: "Yeah! We had good organisation back then! I just remember it sucked. We hadn't played in a year and a half or something, and someone was obviously like, 'Fuck it, stick 'em out in front of thousands of people!"

COMPANIES OF THE PARTY.

Billie Joe: "I think 2004 was the last time we were here. We played right after 50 Cent..." Mike: "...who got bottled by, like, 10,000 bottles." Billie Joe: "Yeah, that was interesting. We've personally always had a fine time with it though. I just remember watching footage of Nirvana on MTV and thinking, 'God, I wanna do that."

Luckily, things fell into place straightaway. Billie Joe: "Suddenly it felt so good to be doing it that way again. It just felt natural - and it ended up being weirdly fun."

His final point there is illustrated in fine style a few hours later at the Shepherds Bush show. Aside from the thrill that still sharks through the entire I rowd when the band haul I ids onstage to play along with them (not to mention their now de rigeur theatrics, which tonight include covering the Benny Hill theme and firing bog rolls at us), it's the gleefully honest nature of the new tracks that's most telling about where Green Day are at right now. The harsh, groove-laden aesthetic of 'Powerage'-era AC/DC and the riffs of the early Kinks bleed into their new material, with the lil es of '99 Revolutions' and 'Oh Love' sounding euphoric and scummy. It's almost like they've been born from the DNA of America's foremost pop punk band trying their damnedest to remember what it was that made them tick in 1994. Needless to say, the gig is compelling.

ut to Reading Festival 12 hours later, and things are decidedly less rosy. Early on Friday morning, NME gets word that festival organisers and the band's management are pulling Saturday's surprise gig due to crowd crush fears following Billie Joe's tweet. It takes a marathon of to-ing, fro-ing and security double checking for the band to get the go-ahead, and they finally take to the NME/Radio I



Stage at 10.50am on Saturday. "This is the best worst kept secret in Figland!" Billie Joe screams at the crowd as they in England!" stream into the tent. Here, at this ungodly hour and under this dank, sweaty canvas, the **BILLIE JOE** band are even more special

than at Shepherds Bush. They're like a trio of all-American court jesters, lavishly doling out tricks'n'treats to those lucky enough to be pogoing down the front Further back, meanwhile, there are so many people keen to see the action that organisers are forced to play video footage of the gig on the big screens all around the site, meaning that for perhaps the only time this whole weekend, the entire place feels like it's moving as one - to the same beat-'emup, bash-'em-out three-chord beat.

"This is the best worst-kept secret

Billie Joe adds. "They were afraid of chaos, basically - too many people outside the tent. But we worked it out. I mean it's always fun when you're doing something you're not supposed to be doing, right?" Too right We predict that

crazy the show was. "So you

couldn't get in to your own tent

huh?!" taunts Tre when one of our

party tells him how pre enforced

lines of security were keeping the

crowds at safe distances. "Well, it

was pretty lucky - it was 24 hours

of 'Will we, won't we?!"

this time next year, Green Day may very well be back headlining the Main Stage at Reading and Leeds, a prospect that garners nervous giggles from the band before Billie Joe can compose himself enough to find us an answer. "Ah, I don't know about that yet. But I'll tell you what - how about if we play a tent again? Although next time I want to do the even smaller one!" You hear that? It's the sound of the legendary Green Day rumour mill starting up again... Barry Nicolson

HOW WAS IT FOR YOU?

Fans give their verdicts on Green Day's performance



ADAM, 17, BRIGHTON

"Billie just pointed at me and then some guy picked me up on to the stage! I just can't believe it. I'd been looking all over for details of this show for ages. Then when I get here, it's the best moment of my life."



MARK, 17, **ESSEX**

"We were the first lot of people queuing to get through the gate at Reading this morning! I saw Green Day on Thursday in London and found out from the sound guys when they'd be playing here."



MATT, 17, MILTON KEYNES

"I was in the 'wall of death' and some big fucker headbutted me! We heard them start when we were at our tent this morning so we bloody ran for it to get to see them."



ELLIE, 18, WINDSOR

"I had to crowdsurf out of there because somebody stood on me, but, it was an unbelievable show. man. It was the best morning I've ever had in my life but I'm completely dead now."



ANNA, 24, BEDS

"We only bought tickets for Reading when we found out Green Day were playing. I loved it when Billie put the hat on and danced. He should have got his willy out, then I would have been really happy."



ELLIE, 16, BRIGHTON

"It was amazing but very, very hot at the front, wearing this. I think we should probably go and get changed into some fresh clothes now actually. I really hope they come back next year."



LEEDS

MAIN STAGE, FRIDAY, 8.30PM

agger's lips? Lemmy's warts? Ian Brown's monkey pout? Pffft, keep 'em. There's only one iconic facial feature that matters this weekend, and it's the lupine grin that never leaves the face of the unofficial king of Reading and Leeds, the Grohlissimo himself: David Eric Grohl.

This weekend marks Grohl's ninth appearance at

Reading, his fifth at Leeds, and his fourth time headlining the Main Stage. On average, he someone's got the horn for Grohl and co Physically hurts so rock it

plays here once every 2.3 years, and has become as synonymous with the festival as those famous yellow-and-black bill posters. He's an institution that has outlived even dear, departed Metal Day, the surest of sure things.

In fact, his stock here is such that he plays for two and a half hours tonight, and no-one bats an eyelid. "We don't do those little shows," he informs us after the skyscraping rush of 'My Hero'. "We do those big shows, where everybody goes home saying, 'I can't believe they played that many fucking songs!"

No doubt. But what's remarkable is that the set never drags; over the years, the Foos have quietly amassed one of rock's most formidable oeuvres, and tonight they play pretty much all of it. Their

> breakneck opening salvo -'White Limo', 'All My Life' and 'Rope' in rat-tat-tat succession sets the pace for the evening, with Grohl charging from one side of the stage to the other and braving the grabby hands of the front rows down in the pit. By the not even midpoint of 'Arlandria', he's looking pretty pleased with

himself. "We used to suck," he says, matter-of-factly, "but now we're pretty good."

He's being modest; this is about as good a Reading and Leeds headline set as we've ever seen. There are covers (Pink Floyd's 'In The Flesh' and Queen's "Tie Your Mother Down', with Roger Taylor's son

Rufus guesting on drums). There are fireworks (naturally). And, on 'Monkey Wrench', there's even a spontaneous makeout session with a blow-up sex doll. Now that's value for money.

Inevitably, a few serious notes are struck. As often as he's played here, there's real sincerity in his voice when he tells us before a closing 'Everlong' that tonight is a "big fucking deal. Like any band, we never expected to play to an audience this big. You don't need a computer, you don't need to finish high school, you just need to pick up a guitar and start a band. I'd like to thank you for the last 20 years of my life".

To which we say: here's to the next 20 It's not complacency on Grohl's part, nor a lack of imagination on the organisers', that keeps bringing him back here: it's history. A little bit more of ir gets made tonight. See you in another 2.3 years, Dave. Barry Nicolson

SETLIST

- White Limo
- Ali My Life
- Rope The Pretender
- My Hero
- Dear Rosemary Arlandria
- Cold Day In
- The Sun Generator
- Walk
- These Days Monkey Wrench
- Hey, Johnny Park!
- This Is A Call
- Bridge Burning/
- In The Flesh Best Of You
- Times Like These
 - Breakout
 - Tie Your
 - **Mother Down** Everlong



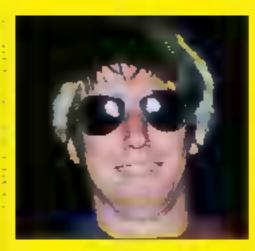
HOW WAS IT FOR YOU?

Down the front for the FOO FIGHTERS



JACK, 17, WALES

"Oh my god, they
were amazing! I
thought the set length
was absolutely
perfect. I'd happily
still be listening to it
now. I could have
watched them for hours
and hours and hours."



LIAM, 19, GLASGOW

"They were really good.
It's the first time I've seen
them, and as far as I'm
concerned, the longer
they play for, the better.
Best bit was when Dave
came down to the
barriers. I was right at
the front of the crowd."



JAY, 18, MANCHESTER

"They were sick.
Absolutely amazing.
The set length was
brilliant because they
played all the songs,
didn't they? Highlight
for me was 'The
Pretender', though."



CHARLOTTE, 18, LEICESTER

"I enjoyed it, although
I missed 'The Pretender'
at the start, which I
was annoyed about.
I thought the set went
on a little bit. Did
'Monkey Wrench' have
to be that long!?"

THE VACCINES LOOK LIKE FUTURE HEADLINERS

Head to toe in denim and armed with new tunes, Justin and co make their triumphant return to storm the Main Stage

READINGMAIN STAGE,
SATURDAY, 6.40PM

t's a big week for The Vaccines
- their biggest gigs ever at
Reading and Leeds on the eve
of the release of a brand new
album. And they're on the
cover of NME (August 25). "Older.
Wiser. Wilder." reads the headline,
but can they live up to that with the
pressure of a Main Stage set?

Older? Perhaps a little too much; after last year's stunningly shambolic beer-sodden set, this time the outfits are more Cotton Traders than Topshop, Justin and Freddie's matching double denim making them look a Status Quo tribute act. Wiser? It's hard to say. The hopelessness of newie 'Ghost Town', suggests there's been plenty of lyrical progression, but the nursery-rhyme majesty of 'No Hope' is a relief for those who worried The Vaccines had forgotten how to keep it simple-stupid.

But wilder? Absolutely. Every single song is turned into an arms-aloft singalong moment of Elbow-like proportions. 'Wetsuit' sees a bunch of lads crowd-surfing in snorkelling

gear. For 'A Lack Of Understanding', one guy decides to strip all of his clothes off, stand on his mate's shoulders and wave his tackle about.

But there are as many girls on

QUESTION & ANSWER

Breite William

Marie Control of the last of t

Justin: "Really nervous. It's a big deal, isn't it? I keep thinking, what if I can't play!?"

"For us, it felt like an affirming end to all the work we'd put in."

"Absolutely. It's two new singles and two new album tracks and there could be no better stage to premiere them on."

"Haha, let's just see how tonight

Shoulders and hollering lads for 'Teenage Icon' as there are for 'Post Break Up Sex'. And the riotous response to proper unknown newble 'Bad Mood' suggests The Vaccines are changing for the better.

Some things never change though. Freddie's strumalong head-shakes seem to be those of a man struggling with his tax return. 'Wreckin' Bar' still gets a deep bellow of appreciation from the crowd, presumably from all the lads who've heard it played to death on FIFA. And 'If You Wanna' is still the anthem that slays Reading.

"When I was 12 years old I saw Nirvana on this stage. And never in a million years did I dream I'd be up here," says Justin before hurling his hands over his head and yelling his way through the chorus with Kurt Cobain madness in his eyes.

So maybe The Vaccines aren't quite growing up just yet. This a set where brilliant stupidity triumphs over twiddly bits and tunes triumph over sense. Most importantly this is a set where The Vaccines show they've touched the hearts of a generation of guitar music fans. What did we expect? Nothing less. Sam Wolfson



OKASABIAN ANSWER

YOUR QUESTIONS

Never, ever try the squid... and other indispensable R&L advice from Serge and Tom



Why haven't you played Reading and Leeds for nearly 10 years?

Joe Pape, Berkshire

Serge: "Wow, I didn't think it was that long. I suppose it's seven years. We were waiting for the headline, I suppose. You get offered a slot and we'd been offered headlining at V and T In The Park, so we were just waiting for the headline."

NME: Remember the first time you played?

Serge: "I can, because we were on at V and you can't play both, so we got around it by changing our name. We went on as

Reading and Leeds" SERGE **KSBN** the first

time, in one of the tents. That was mega."

What was your first festival experience as a punter? And what's the worst thing you've eaten at a festival?

Celina MacDonald, Oxford Tom: "I went to Reading for the day, I was kinda backstage, when we first got signed in 2002 or 2003. I was just trying to hang around the VIP area. I tried squid once, disgusting. I was drunk and tried it and spat it straight out."

What would you do if I ran onstage nude while you're playing?

Mick Ibbotson, Glasgow

Serge: "You wouldn't get hit with a guitar, but there'd be no touching. We've had loads of that sort of thing. Not nude, but we did this amazing thing in Japan - on 'Fire', the last song of the set, people get down on the floor. We did it in Japan and everyone got down and there was these two Danish guys stood there with their shorts down, windmilling."

Would you rather headline Glastonbury next or score the winning goal for Leicester City in a cup final at Wembley?

Alex Barston, Leicester

Serge "I suppose I'd go for the cup final, because I think we're gonna headline Glastonbury one day, so that's probably less likely. After this weekend there's only

one left. We've been trying to put a gig on at Leicester for years but they didn't build the stadium strong enough for people to stand in the stands. We've been trying to get

on that pitch for eight years!"

If ET landed at a British festival, what bands would be check out?

Simon Paul Tucker, Carmarthen Tom: "I don't think he would. He'd have to find out the history of rock'n'roll so he'd check out The Rolling Stones, he'd go right back to the roots, you'd have to educate him. And he'd check out ELO around Telephone I ine and Stevie doing I Just Called To Say I Love You."

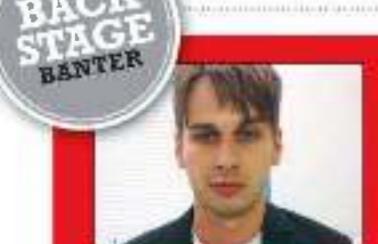


LIVE VERDICT

READING

MAIN STAGE, READING, SATURDAY, 9.50PM

o, finally, seven years since they last played here, Kasabian headline Reading Festival, Nerves? Hardly. This is a band so confident topping stages now they could do it naked and not blush. They've reached that 'professionally special' level where you feel they could nail this every other night - 'Underdog', 'Velociraptor!', the closing 'Fire' all sound as big-bicepped as any 'Friday, I'm In Love' or 'Everlong'. Serge even manages to get the crowd chanting to '90s rave-pop classic 'Scatman' by Scatman John, "I've always wanted to do that," he smirks. A double victory, then, Jamie Fullerton



BINGE POSTER FOSTER THE PEOPLE

"Passion Pit's bus is the exact replica of ours, 50 I walked on that and said. Er. I don't know any of you!""



LUCY HOSE

had a lookalike come up to me in the signing tent. She'd won £300 in a competition for looking like me. She had long hair and she was a girt."



JOSH PHANCESCHI. YOU ME AT SIX

"We're going to get really drunk now, then sleep and play Leeds tomorrow, It's crazy. Reading is always a big event on our calendar."



BRIAN FALLON, THE GASLIGHT ANTHEM

"The first time we played Leeds was on the Lock Up Stage. More kids than we've ever played to."



FORNINY LLOYD. TRIBES

"The guy that joined us on guitar is our mate. He's got a PhD in nanochemistry, but he took time out to play with Tribes!"



Never mind the elements, nothing will stop this Machine from raising people up

FLO SHAKES
OUT THE RAIN

READING

MAIN STAGE, SATURDAY, 8PM

here's a problem facing tonight's Main Stage acts. How do they top Green Day in the tent? The 'surprise' morning set has already used all the best headliner moves: teenagers cried, grown men begged to be covered in toilet paper, fans fainted at just one peek of Billie Joe's pearly white arse. They were basically the perfect Reading band. And although Florence has played the festival before (on the middle of the NME/Radio 1 Stage bill in 2009) she's advocating hugs, not walls of death. When she says "moshpit" it sounds a bit la-di-da. Rather than lasers and cannons. The Machine have mirror balls and art deco shapes.

Flo seems up for it, though, and it's no surprise she's feeling confident. In 2012 she's had a Number One single, a Number One album, played the Royal Albert Hall and generally become one of the UK's

biggest deals. "This song is fitting for today," she laughs before launching in to a frantic pogo and bellowing out "What The Water Gave Me". During 'Rabbit Heart (Raise It Up)' she boldly asks the crowd to lift each other (but calls it making "a human sacrifice" because, well, she's Florence). The keyboards sound all Calvin Harris, spurring her to jump offstage and run barefoot into the crowd.

Any other year the dual threat of 'Dog Days Are Over' and 'You've Got The Love' would be her festival moment, but tonight there's a surprise winner. The rain is hammering down, it's properly soaking. "Hands up if you're going to do something you regret in the morning," she shouts, introducing an extended dance version of 'Shake It Out' that ends with thousands of very wet faces bawling back at her. "I first came to Reading when I was 13. I was scared shitless," she says afterwards, make-up running down her face. "All these years later I'm playing. Thanks for making my dream come true." Reading Spirit? Flo's got it. Sian Rowe

ODD FUTURE 'FUCK THE STAGE'

Shunning the Main Stage to do the show in the pit, a nine-strong crew cause ecstatic chaos

READING

MAIN STAGE, SATURDAY, 3.10PM

fairly chin-stroking indie lot have just been watching Mystery Jets, when the Reading crowd starts to rupture in this midafternoon. From nowhere, teens rush towards the Main Stage, the average age dropping by 10 years. DJ Syd Tha Kid runs on to drop Childish Gambino's 'Hold You Down', flying straight towards the crowd to high-five her fans like Beyoncé in a hoodie.

When Tyler The Creator comes on, wild kicking across the stage, the crowd go batshit crazy. Moshpits, circles and straight-up fist-fights break out everywhere. Soon, almost every member of a nine strong Odd Future are in the pit, high-fiving the crowd, dutty wining with the roadies. "Fuck the stage!" shouts Hodgy Beats. "We'll do the show down here." Suddenly Tyler flies into the

crowd and is standing on people's actual heads, going insane. The rest of Odd Future have decamped to the pit. '50' starts up with its refrain of "Fuck the police, break the law" and dust flies through the air like a riot in a Killers video. Left Brain, wearing a Union Jack T-shirt, starts to imitate sex acts in front of a line of big, burly, stone-faced security. 'Yonkers' is met with lustful screams as 14-year-old girls announce the terrible things they'd like to do to Paramore's Hayley Williams. The most raucous moment of the set, however, comes at the end when they're joined onstage by Trash Talk.

It's a balls-out rock moment that would put the old Reading Metal Day to shame. In the end they run over by ages and the sound gets cut. But the real finale is the thousands of crazed teenagers chanting "Wolf Gang" like they'd just seen the messiah. Sam Wolfson





CRYSTAL CASTLES DECLARE WAR

READING, MAIN STAGE, FRIDAY, 3.50PM

"I didn't think I could lose faith in humanity but... the world is a dystopia." That's Alice Glass talking to NME last month about the feeling behind the Crystal Castles' forthcoming album. Still, if things do go to shit, this is a band who are prepared. On the Main Stage, Alice's military jacket, sci-fi purple hair, heavy boots and spit-covered face mean she looks ready for

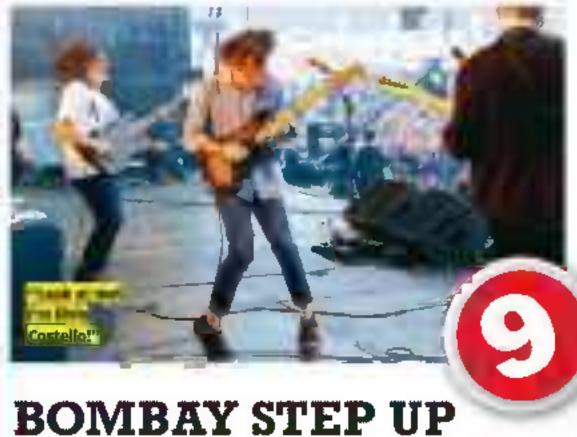
battle, while Ethan Kath (like always) is half beard, half bandana all 'don't talk to me or I'll kick you in the face'. And the sound? It's brutal, 'Plague' and 'Never Been Touched' from the new album are half rave up, half slam dance, and perfect for this setting. 'Crimewave' sounds territying, Alice's vocal crackling through the nasty bass, and a granding version of 'Not In Love' (sadly no cameo from Robert Smith, who was on the record) brings then hig-time debut to a cuphoric but grubby close. If the world's got to end, can it go down with a party like this? Sian Rowe

ICEAGE GET ANGRY

LEEDS, FESTIVAL REPUBLIC STAGE, FRIDAY, 3PM

Ellas 🖷

'A knockabout hit-strewn sunshine set' would be the perfect way to mis-describe what Iceage do to the Festival Republic Stage. No 'Broken Bone'. Not much 'New Brigade' to speak of, in fact. Not much crowd either. No band has come to Leeds with more of a mission to piss on it than these Danes. The first half is static grind. But then hatchet-eyed Elia Bender Rønnenfelt discards his guitar and starts to convert all that blinding tension into furious motion. His only words are to cue up the final track: "Last song - 'You Are Nothing'." It's hard to know whether it's a title or just his life advice. Gavin Haynes



READING, MAIN STAGE, FRIDAY, 6.20PM

"We've been coming to this festival since we were 16," beams Jack Steadman. They've played almost every Reading since they formed, working their way up through the stages, and they don't disappoint. 'Lights Out, Words Gone' has all the nervous shivers of a campsite tryst. 'Always Like This' sparks a mammoth singalong. But the highlight is new song 'Carry Me', with its ethereal voices, twisted hip-hop samples, afro-drums and two separate basslines. Bombay might have to come back one more time. There's still one slot for them to play. Sam Wolfson



TWO DOOR SHOW HEADLINER SPIRIT

LEEDS, NME/RADIO 1 STAGE, FRIDAY, 8.20PM

"When we first played on this stage in 2009, we never thought we'd be back here playing to so many people," says a taken-aback Alex Trimble as Two Door Cinema Club bring their set to a close. Despite being one of the biggest bands in the country right now, the level of hysteria that greets the Bangor boys is astonishing. The crowd sing 'Undercover Martyn' back at the band at such a volume that Alex's vocals are rendered completely inaudible, a wild feverishness spreading through the packed tent. Save for sharing a few disbelieving looks, Two Door take it all in their stride, putting on a truly impressive show that exceeds everyone's expectations. Even the less familiar tracks from 'Beacon' go down a storm, the stadium-ready 'Someday' sounding absolutely gargantuan. If they continue at this rate, Two Door will be the biggest band in the world, not just the UK. Rhian Daly



JUSTICE FUCK WITH OUR MINDS

LEEDS, NME/RADIO 1 STAGE, FRIDAY, 10.45PM

As Dave Grohl grinds into the ninth hour of his 23-hour set, weary refugees continue to flood into the back end of the NME/Radio 1 tent. Before them are two men who have just as much sense of the value of showmanship, but who also realise that showmanship can only mean something if you're playing it as a game - that it's only fun if it's done with a rakish lightness of touch, a wry raised eyebrow, and, of course, five tonnes of mindfucking, iris-violating lasers'n'tasers lightshow. Their two-point-oh show remains a camp classic right from the first notes of its creepy Bach intro. More than any other dance act, they've always understood light and shade. Of course, stretched to its outermost limits at 75 minutes, sometimes it feels like there's too much downtime in between the duo's blasts of high velocity. But these are minor quibbles. And when the final blaze of white light ushers in the fourth and final trance-paced rework of 'We Are Your Friends', there are no more thoughts, only actions. Gavin Haynes



PABH BRING FUN AND FURY

LEEDS, MAIN STAGE, FRIDAY, 12PM

"Five years ago we were playing the BBC Introducing Stage, so this is fucking weird," announces frontman Tom Hudson as he surveys the huge crowd. "We've had to give out a lot of handjobs to get here," quips guitarist James Brown. Sexual favours or not, Pulled Apart By Horses deserve every devil-horned minute of this brilliant festival-opening set on the Main Stage.

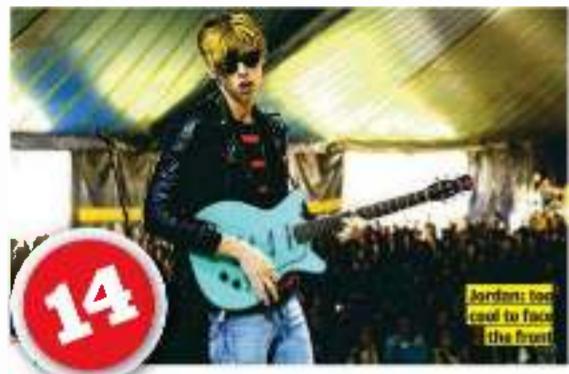
From the moment 'Back To The Fuck Yeah' spits forth an aural assault of skyscraping riffage, hands thunderclap and bodies are sacrificed as early-bird crowdsurfers risk injury for the cause. The awesome 'VENOM' only heightens the carnage, as the first circle pits of the weekend begin to form (plus PABH's own contribution to the art of mosh, the conga pit -"It's like a circle pit, but you do the conga," explains Tom). Vicious set-closer 'High Five, Swan Dive, Nose Dive' rips apart any notion that this is too big a step up for the Leeds hardcore outfit. Jamie Crossan



ALT-J SPRING A LITTLE SURPRISE

READING, BBC INTRODUCING STAGE, FRIDAY, 2.40PM

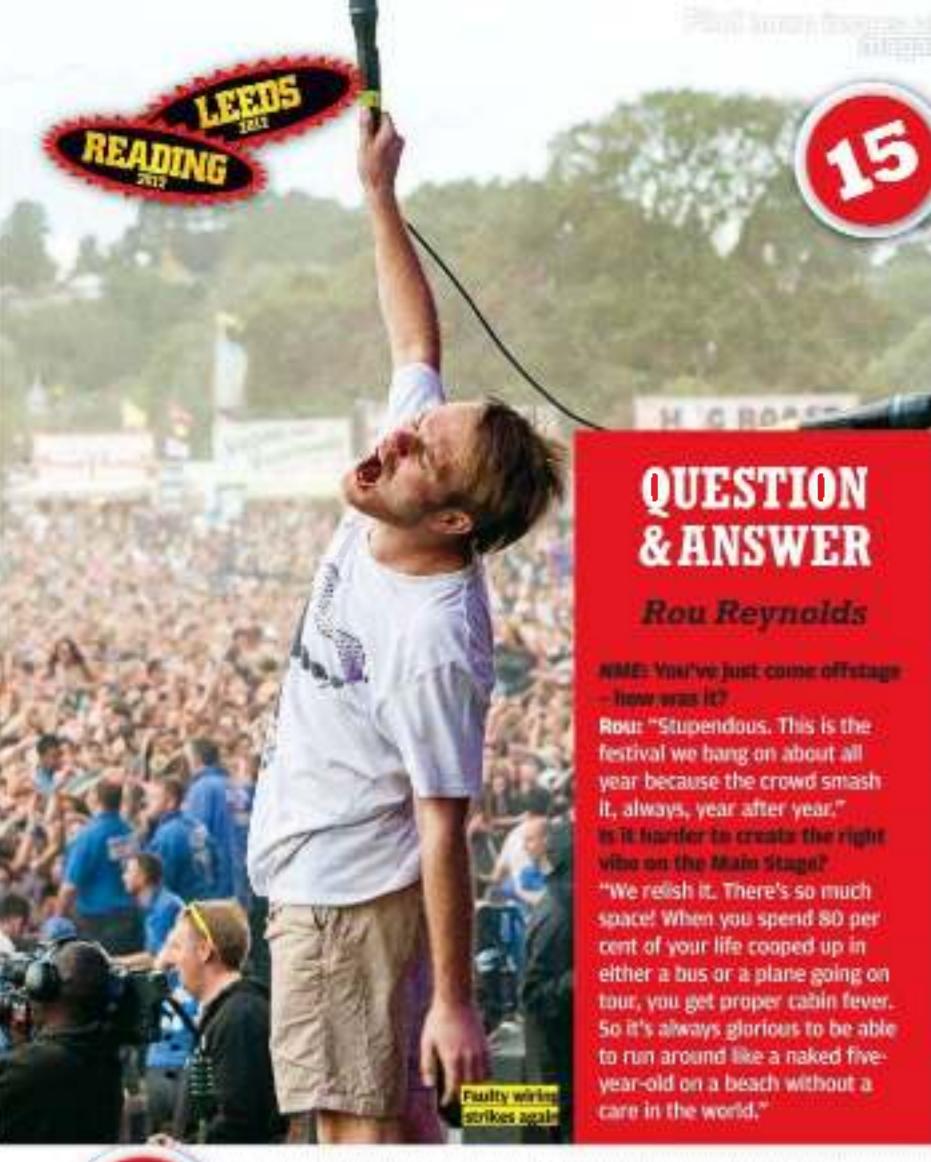
Alt-J turn up, unannounced, on the BBC Introducing Stage, eager to make their Reading debut three hours ahead of schedule. The crowd seem nonplussed at first as 'Interlude I' struggles against the earth-shaking Main Stage noise, but the band, riding high on their sleeper-hit debut 'An Awesome Wave', soon win them over. They close on 'Matilda', as newly converted fans form triangles with their fingers and chant for more. A brief introduction, but Alt-J are shaping up for bigger things. Kevin EG Perry



HOWLER DEBUT SENSITIVE SIDE

LEEDS, NME/RADIO 1 STAGE, FRIDAY, 12.50PM It might be Howler's first appearance at Leeds but

it feels like they're veterans. Their set is punctuated by typically ramshackle moments, plus a new song a bittersweet, romantic swooner that finds Jordan Gatesmith sighing "I just wanna tell you that I love you." Ending on 'Back Of Your Neck', he launches himself into drummer Brent Mayes' lap before wrestling him to the floor. If this is a teaser of what's to come when they headline the NME Generation Next tour, then roll on October. Rhian Daly



SHIKARI SMASH THE SYSTEM

Stagediving, crowdsurfing and pounding beats from the hardcore St Albans crew

READING, MAIN STAGE, SATURDAY, 5.30PM

ou Reynolds has only been onstage for about 45 seconds when he decides to leap off it. Enter Shikari's opening double punch of 'System...' and '... Meltdown' has begun and their frontman is already throwing himself not just from the stage, but from any raised platform in sight. It's a hell of an entrance, and the masses cheer the band like returning heroes fresh from battle. "We are Enter Shikari. We've been abusing musical genres using technology since 2003," says Rou by way of introduction. "What are you saying, Reading?" What Reading is saying is that they're just as ready as he is to throw themselves around.

The band keep the faith with a setlist that's proved so successful for them across festival shows this summer. The only times Rou ceases his perpetual motion is when he grabs hold of the huge dashboard he has set up onstage to drop the band's mighty dubstep wobble. It has more knobs and dials than Concorde's cockpit, and it's just as likely to smash the sound barrier. Before 'Juggernauts' Rou announces: "A few years ago we broke the world record for crowdsurfing to this song." They come close to breaking it again as hundreds of bodies ride the wave towards the stage. They don't curb their impassioned rhetoric on the big stage, and before 'Gandhi Mate, Gandhi', Rou tells the crowd: "Our lives begin to end the moment we fall silent about the things that matter."

"There are 627,000 hours in an average human lifespan," Rou informs us before 'Zzzonked'. "We appreciate so much that you spent one of those hours with us." Nobody seems to regret their choice. This is the band's fourth year running playing Reading, and while on 'Destabilise' they sing "We don't belong here", they can't be talking about the Main Stage. Thousands of moshing fans say this is exactly where they belong. Kevin EG Perry

FRED MEETS HIS INDIE HERO

What happened when the Spector man met Howlin' Pelle from The Hives? Bromance!

Fred Macpherson (Spector): "This is a beautiful moment. It's like that classic NME interview between Carl Barât and Morrissey. I can only hope my career follows a similar trajectory to Carl's." Pelle Almqvist (The Hives): "Why, what's he up to?"

Fred: "Well, exactly. But this is a huge moment for me. I've got Hives pictures on my wall; I went to a Hives signing once." Pelle: "We really enjoyed your show, the crowd were so warm towards you."

Fred: "They were warm, they were moist. I missed your set today, but the second show I ever saw was The Hives. I bought tickets off a tout. They were £30. These days £30 is worth, like, €40."

Pelle: "That's a lot of money." Fred: "I know, it's at least £1000. Around the same time I went to see The Libertines a lot. It was a good era for music, don't you think?"

Pelle: "Absolutely, because before that we had, like, eight years of being the only

good band in the world, then came The Strokes, The White Stripes, all of that." Fred: "Who are you looking forward to tonight?"

Pelle: "The Cure. Their songs are like pop masterpieces. Who are The Maccabees? I've never heard them." Fred: "They've got that song "Oo-see-soome" ['Pelican'], that sounds a bit like The Lion King soundtrack."

Pelle: "What's this thing with indie bands and Africa?"

Fred: "I know, I never wanted that with us. I said, 'Put that percussion away!' So... have you ever made love to your own music? I don't mean through the hole of CD, I mean in the background."

Pelle: "I don't think so."

Fred: "I believe it's possible that I have. Not to my music, to yours."

Pelle: "If I could, I would constantly make love to my own music." Fred: "I feel like we're great friends now."

Pelle: "Surc, why not."



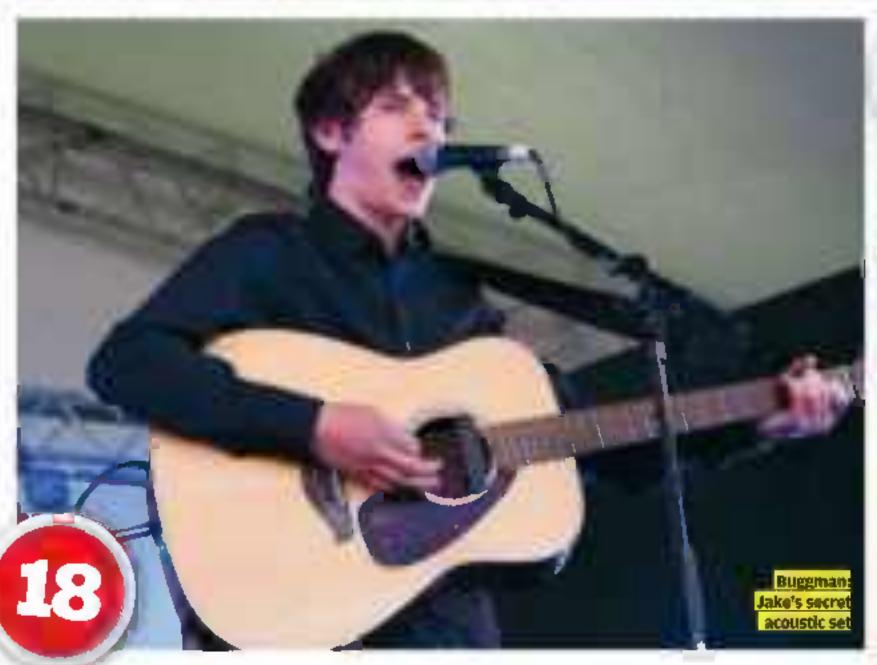
GRIMES GETS NASTY

READING, DANCE STAGE, SATURDAY, 2.45PM

It's mid-afternoon when Grimes creeps onstage, but the people squashed to the front of the Reading Dance Tent don't seem to care one bit. There's a definite 3am, not 3pm feel to this set - the most conventional and least arty 'festival' show of Claire Boucher's busy summer. There are lots of "I'm soooo into this" pouts from girls who already look like they've just come back from clubbing, and excited rave fingers from the lads. A group of three friends ask a dancing man, "Are you on Mandy?", but he just wraps himself tightly in his Welsh flag and gurns a bit.

Grimes looks up for it too, jumping on the spot to pump up the crowd. Now joined by a friend on drums, everything is heavier and nastler than all the other times she's played in the UK, the skittering synths of songs like 'Vanessa' given a whack by crashing 808s. A topless "dancer" thrusts around stage-left as 'Oblivion''s beefed-up "la la la"s kick in. 'Phone Sex' - a song recorded with her friend from Vancouver, Blood Diamonds - is pervy disco, with an added whuuub (maybe a nod to the fact that London bass-heavy four-piece Modestep are up on the Dance Stage later). And if you were under the impession that Grimes doesn't have hits and should stay in squats rather than play festivals, then 'Genesis' proves you WAY wrong. Fans are throwing water, sitting on each other's shoulders and clapping for more, more, more. Siân Rowe





JAKE BUGG'S HOT SECRET

READING, BBC INTRODUCING STAGE, SATURDAY, 2.50PM

There may not be quite as many circle pits for Jake Bugg's secret Reading show as there were for Green Day's a few hours earlier, but at his brief, three-song acoustic set – ahead of a rammed

Festival Republic show - he's shooting just as straight

as Billie Joe Armstrong with his big toilet-roll gun. We get 'Taste It', 'Country Song' and 'Lightning Bolt' - all showing off what a *ridiculously* good guitarist he is - and Jake is rewarded by a gaggle of superfans who can't stop screaming "WE LOVE YOU, JAKE BUGG!" and waving lighters around in the blazing sunshine. Good job it wasn't a full set - the combo of naked flame and Bugg-speed fretwork could have been very dangerous indeed. *Kevin EG Perry*



ATD-I TAKE

COMMAND

the fuck are you doing here?" he asks the audience in mock surprise. "We still have to clean this fucker." Tidying up after The Cribs hacked apart their instruments isn't exactly what he would've expected from their long-awaited return to the UK, but he's in high spirits. "I just got in from Vegas and guess whose ass I was taking photos of?" he jokes, clearly having noted the right royal pap frenzy going on in the UK this week.

The Texan post-hardcore outfit – reformed after an 11-year hiatus – launch into 'Arcarsenal' to open a set mainly drawn from their 2000 master-punk-piece 'Relationship Of Command'. They admit it's "kind of funny" to be touring the album 12 years on, and it's sadly nowhere near the biggest crowd the NME/Radio 1 Stage sees over the weekend, but the adoring faithful that have turned out never thought they'd have the chance to see this.

The band themselves still seem unsure about their reunion. Guitarist Omar Rodríguez-López spends the entire show looking like he's stuck with a charmless man at a party he'd rather not be at. Thank God for Cedric, who moves like he's getting an electric shock every time he touches the floor.

The band might not be having the time of their lives, but even Omar's frown can't dent the sheer visceral power of closers 'Catacombs' and 'One Armed Scissor'. *Kevin EG Perry*



DATE SATISFARM

"I'm going to watch Mark Lanegan. I tried to watch him at Pukkelpop. It must have been the heat - I kept falling over."



WHEN PARTIES

"We've been in the signing tent. I've signed four tits – two pairs. People are fucking mad, man; I've had to sign some foreheads too."



TOTAL SECRETARY.

"Among other things, like drinking and seeing our mates SCUM, we've had a fight with security. They can be so rude!"



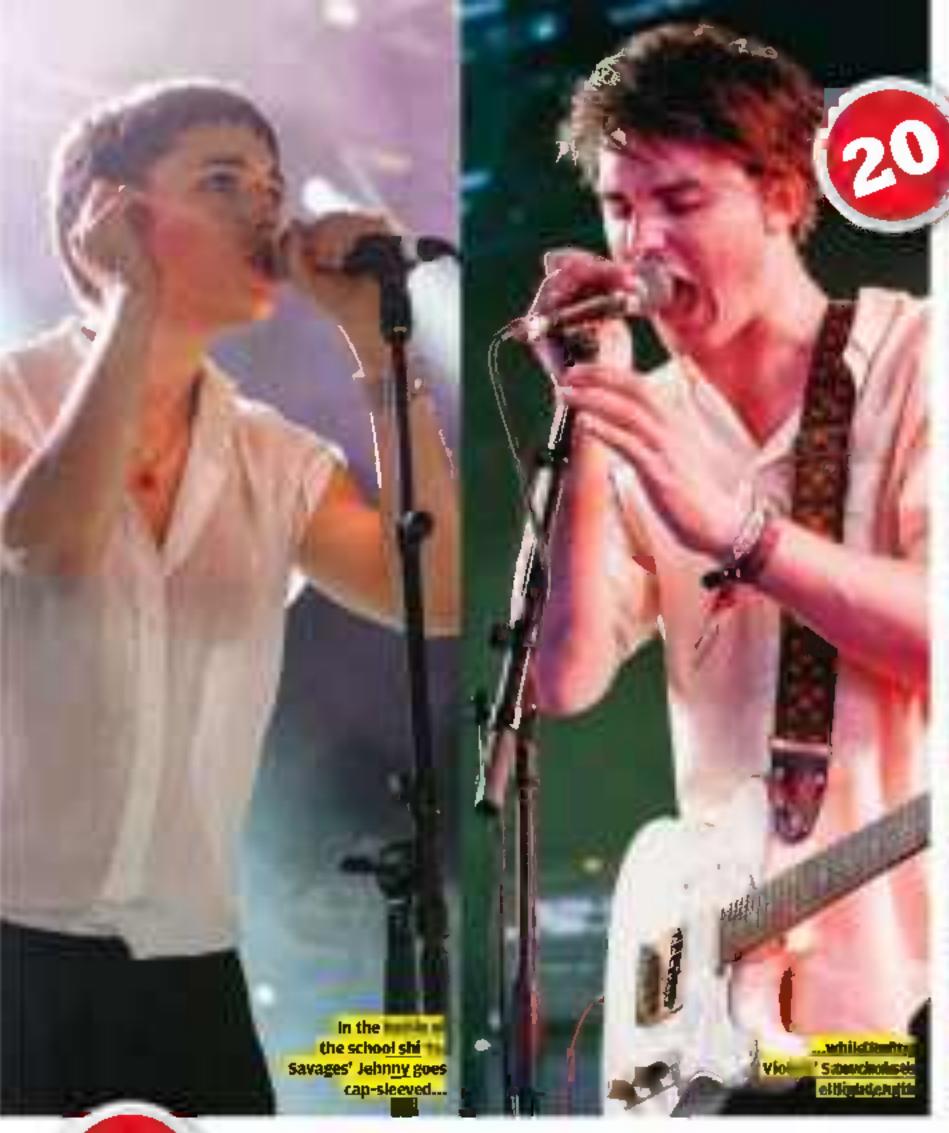
STREET, STREET,

"The band I manage went down well. Dion Dublin doesn't put his name to anything bad - The Establishment are great."



RESIDENCE BURE

"We always have a good time when we go out in Leeds. Everyone's friendly. The crowd were great!"



PALMA VIOLETS EDGE SAVAGES

The battle of the exciting new bands is go!

READING

FESTIVAL REPUBLIC STAGE, FRIDAY, 12.35PM (PALMA VIOLETS) AND 2 05PM (SAVAGES)

avages and Palma Violets are two of the UK's most exciting new bands. One: a motorik post-punk unit whose debut single has just gone to a second pressing. The other: four best friends whose secret shows in a south London bunker won them a deal with Rough Trade. Both: been on tour together recently.

Palma Violets are playing in a slot when most campers are still waking up, but their fans are already squeezed to the front. There's whooping as singer/guitarist Sam Fryer and bassist Chilli (already so notorious he only needs a first name) play back to back. Sam in a white shirt, Chilli in a natty Nick Cave T-shirt, they look like a head boy and sixth-form dropout who became best mates thanks to a shared love of Elvis Costello. 'Tom The Drum' has the kind of climax you're not meant to

write until you're on after lunch, and 'Best Friends' starts a singalong, despite the fact that most people have never heard it before. Then there's 'Brand New Song'. Drummer Will leaves his kit, the organ is cast aside, the bass dropped. They dive into the crowd. Why? "It's gonna be a Number One", croons Sam Fryer, standing centre stage. "This is a radio friendly, radio friendly".

Then, Savages. Where Palma Violets swaggered, they just explode. Lead singer Jehnny jerks and growls. She airboxes through 'Give Me The Gun', its languid verse crashing into a fantastic mess of pummelling drums. When 'Strife' hits its stride they sound like Black Sabbath, Gemma Thompson chugging hard against the noir-ish wail. Single 'Husbands' is the most menacing of the lot, getting louder just when you thought they couldn't bust the speakers any more. Sian Rowe

WINNER: PALMA VIOLETS

Savages played the better set. But on atmosphere? Palmas. Who doesn't love a crowdsurf before lunch?

FRANK TURNER GOES HARDCORE

As Mongol Horde, Frank puts the Olympics behind him for a shot at pure gold

LEEDS

LOCK UP STAGE, FRIDAY, 1.30PM

or a band with only one song online, who only played their first live show four days ago, Mongol Horde have managed to pack out the Lock Up Stage to bonkers levels. The trio aren't new to this, though. Have a look front and centre and the sweaty, shirtless man throwing himself into the crowd looks incredibly familiar. Why, it's none other than one Mr Frank

Turner! There may be no acoustic guitar in sight, and the group's thrashing, hardcore stylings may shun the political for the pure punk, but it still works. Harking back to his days fronting Million Dead, Turner and his bandmates -Ben Dawson (also of Million Dead) and

Matt Nasir, of Frank's backing band The Sleeping Souls-are a full-on attack of spitting energy Given that they've barely moved past the foetal stages of band-dom, their original tracks - all of which clock in at around two minutes - are greeted by enthusiastic, if slightly bemused, faces. However, with Turner screaming like a man possessed, their set is anything but cautious. But recognising that playing an unfamiliar set to a festival crowd is a terrible idea, even for Frank Turner, the trio end on two covers. The second - Nirvana's 'Territorial Pissings'-gets a riotous reception. And the crowning glory? The Streets' 'Don't Mug Yourself', Frank, it seems, is all about the surprises today. Lisa Wright





THE CRIBS SMASH IT

READING, NME/RADIO 1 STAGE, SATURDAY, 8.45PM

Seventh time lucky for The Cribs at Reading and the initial signs are grim. rain and festival malaise aplenty. But every thing from 'Chi-Town' to 'Men's Needs. .' still sounds wonderfully vital. Sure beats getting pneumonia. **W*



MACCABEES TOP THE TENT

READING, NME/RADIO 1 STAGE, FRIDAY 10.30PM

It's been an ace year for them, and this, their biggest Reading show, is the icing on the cake. 'No Kind Words'? Scismic. 'Precious Time' and 'Can You Give It'? Epic. You're left thinking they've never looked more comfortable. They deserve to get even bigger. MW



AZEALIA BANKS NAILS IT!

READING, FRIDAY, DANCE TENT, 7PM
Recently, Azealia has been hosting
Mermaid Balls – sexy parties full of
models in shimmery leather. Not

aying in muddy fields. But does she care? Nah. She fires into 'Fuck Up The Fun' and the housey 'Liquorice', then it's that song. We can barely hear her over the screams of "I GUESS THAT CUNT GETTING EATEN" SR



THE CURE PLAY THE HITS. A LOT OF THEM

It's been a whopping 33 years since a fledgling Robert Smith and co graced a stage at Reading. But on this Friday, we are all still in love

READING

MAIN STAGE, FRIDAY, 9PM

hank you, and hello...

again," smiles Robert

Smith, cloaked in mist
and mystery, as The Cure
return to Reading Festival
after a third-of-a-century wait. He'd
promised that their epic two-and-ahalf hour headlining set would be an
education for the young fans here, and
he and his band certainly don't hold
back from delving deep into their back
catalogue.

Most of the audience weren't even born the last time The Cure played here, in 1979, but timeless classics such as 'In Between Days' and 'Just I ike Heaven' have every soul in the field twirling and waltzing. At other times, Smith's kohl rimmed eyes seem close to tears. 'Pictures Of You' is so deeply sad it makes you wonder how he summons the emotional fortitude to sing it show in, show out. The sinister 'Lullaby' is a work of condensed theatre. He doesn't talk to the crowd much throughout the set or pause long between songs, but that aside, Smith

still manages to throw in a few flashes of humour. "At least it's the right day, eh?" he shrugs before the glorious 'Friday, I'm In Love'

The band around him onstage tonight are on imperious form, with ex-Bowie

HOW WAS IT FOR YOU?

The Cure



BRENDAN 20, NORFOLK

"It went on just a bit too long, but it might have been my last chance to see The Cure so I made the most of it."



VICIOUS 24, LONDON

"It was a masterpiece.
Forget the rest of the weekend, that's what it was about. There was a good vibe."

sideman Reeves Gabrels on guitar and bassist Simon Gallup stalking the stage like The Clash's Paul Simonon in his prime. Gallup's best moment by far is 'A Forest', which he ends by tearing at his bass like a lumberjack hacking up wood. Inevitably, and unfortunately, there are time during the sprawling sort that the pace slackens somewhat and the atmosphere lulls, but it's never long before the band shake thems ly is out of it.

If the main headliner set at Reading and Leeds is designed to teach and test the fans both young and old, the triumphant encore is their reward. 'The Love Cats' is so irresistibly danceable that even the most lethargic camper finds their feet moving. Perhaps the band are nockling to their own and the audience's stamina when they suggest 'I ct's Go To Bed', but they still find time for 'Why Can't I Be You?' and an ecstatic 'Boy's Don't Cry'. Before that final song though, Smith says: "Thuty three years on and still standing here singing.. " As he leaves he adds: "See you again¹⁷ Hopefully sooner this time Kevin EG Perry

READING & LEEDS:

THE NAKED TRUTH

From moshing to cross-dressing... to windmilling. The fans sum up their weekends



OLLY & YU MI, 16, PORTSMOUTH "R's been beautiful. Wall-to-wall dancing, moshpits, it's all going off."



OLLY, 21, BARNSLEY "I pissed on my knee. I was sheltering from the rain and having a wee but misjudged it completely."



CRAZY ROB, 33, MARGATE "I dress up every day of the festival. Buzz Lightyear on Friday, clown on Saturday, Sundays, I wear a dress."



JESS, 17 & PIP, 21 "Itook my shield into the moshpit. Don't ever do it. I didn't want to burt people that much."



JESS, 18, MEGAN, 18, CHLOE, 19, READING

Jess: "Maccabees were so good. They played all our favourites - and the NME/Radio 1 Stage was the best tent. The Cure? He's just a bit old though... Megan: "He's Robert Smith! He can do what he wants! I like The Libertines." DOCHERS. That's all we want."

Chloe: "Someone pissed on my top because Heft it on the ground."



ROB & FRIENDS, BEDFORD AND WALES

"What do you mean, am I dressed up as Florence? I am Florence! You'll have to excuse us because we're all a bit nervous before we go on. And especially when we're doing 'Dog Days Are Over' because it's our biggest hit. Who is our mate in the red wig? That's Paloma Faith. No, Cyndi Lauper!"



RUTH, DANNI, EMILY, 17, BATH "We've heard Sunday night is like a riot. We're right by a fire tower so we won't get set on fire!"



CHARLIE, NICK, EWAN, JULIAN, 17, LONDON "We're having a birthday party tonight. You coming back? WHAYYYY."



@WATSIT20 "#NMEReading Panic - bought a poncho in the rain, it turned out to be a kid's one!"



JAMES, 17, DORSET

"How do I go to the toilet? Badly. That's what all of the stains on the costume are. Piss."



@RICHARDMELVILLE

"You Me At Six at Reading (features nudity, y'all) #NMEReading #readingandleeds"



@NIALLASHTON

"#NMEReading, #readingandleeds"



ALEX, 23, BIRKENHEAD

"I had to set up my tent on a slope. I woke up halfway out my tent."



"The Bieb joined us for a couple

@1FRITHSTER



@GEORGIATBHH

"Chillinnnnn #readingfest #NMEReading"

BAND OF THE WEEKEND?



"Paramore! Hayley Williams was so fit. She is amazing. 'Misery Business' was a real jizz-in-your-pants moment."



- SEE A PROPERTY OF

"Grimes was my favourite. I was loving it. I've listened to her albums since I discovered her around last Christmas."



"The Cure were the best band. They're classic, they've got so many hits and he's got such an incredible voice."

BATTLE OF THE SCRIBBLERS!

We asked you to bring mad stuff to be signed by bands. You obliged



FLIPS THE SCRIPT

Sure, you could just go for the regular band-sign-fans'-stuff. But if you're Paramore and you've got easily the longest queue of the weekend, why not split the load, and let them sign YOU?



SOME LITERAL THINKING

What else to get signed by Pulled Apart By Horses than the head of a horse that you have previously pulled apart?



BEANZ MEANZ HIVES

They would have made you stink up your tent, anyway. Stick to a healthy breakfast of Swedish garage rock.



CAMDEN **ALL-STARS**

Everyone knows Converse look best when they're a bit fucked up. Here we see the process being sped up, by Tribes.



FREDDIE BEARS

Yeah, we wanna cuddle Spector, too, and not just him with the good jokes. A teddy is perfect defacing fodder!

25 THINGS WE LEARNED

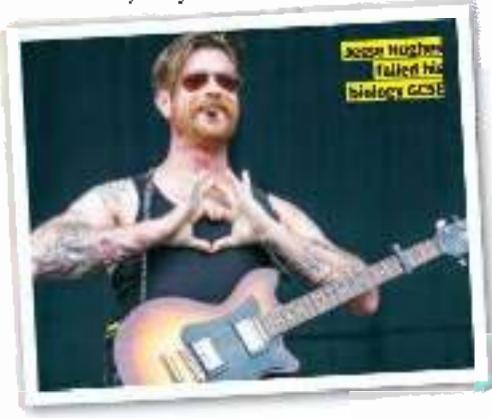
All the interesting bits and pieces gleaned from hanging out by the backstage toilets

Violets is too coo

Fred Spector and Howlin' Pelle from The Hives really like each other. They were supposed to be in our cabin for a 10-minute chat but we had to kick them out after an hour so we could use our chairs again.

Mark Foster, he of Foster The People, is old beyond his years. Among the bourbon, lager and water bottles on his rider: a huge pile of Fisherman's Friend.

The Wi-Fi backstage means bands now run back to the dressing rooms to watch their sets on telly. "I look hench!" said Suren from Bombay Bicycle Club.



Matt Horne, dedicated follower of The Maccabees, is an adept backstage railing climber and an, um, expressive dancer, who reckons "THEY'RE DEFINITELY BETTER THAN THE CRIBS". Case closed.

The Blackout's Sean Smith clearly has his own on-site hair-dying facilities: one minute it's blonde, the next it's Rihanna red.

Top sleb stalker of the weekend is The Subways' Charlotte Cooper, who went all superfan and arrived at her NME Spotify Signing Tent appearance 10 minutes earlier than her bandmates just

to get her picture taken with Paramore frontwoman Hayley Williams.

Jesse 'The Devil' Hughes once got James Brown to sign a cake for his mum. "My mom tried to save it, but sugar don't save too well," he told us. "So I was like, 'Fuck this, mom, we're eating this cake."

As several bruised people discovered while watching Kaiser Chiefs, it is almost impossible to crowdsurf on an inflatable dinghy.

Tribes have adopted a teenage addition to their band, who snuck in backstage and is now "on triangle".

The Cast Of Cheers want to have a Ninja Turtles party with Two Door Cinema Club, where they throw pizza at each other and drink Coke. Two Door would prefer they smeared their nipples in guacamole.

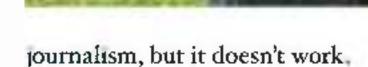
All the bands backstage were pooling their riders to make 'festival snakebites'. Half cider, half beer, with a top of raspberry squash.

The Black Keys provoke the most boob-flashing of any band we've ever seen...

...apart from Bombay Bicyle Club, who are the new Mötley Crüe if the tit-flash count at their Leeds show was anything to go by.

You Me At Six are blaming their sleazy stage directions on Drake: "I saw him do this at a show last week," says frontman Josh Franceschi. "Everybody removes an item of clothing and swings it round their heads." Won't stand up in court.

Following Graham Coxon into the toilets pleading for an interview might seem like great



16 Ethan Kath's real name is Claudio.

Aaron Paul, aka Jesse Pinkman from Breaking Bad, is a hard man to track down. He was tweeting about Foster The People's set at Reading, triggering heart palpitations from NME's numerous BB superfans, but no-one could find him anywhere.

18 Matt Bowman of The Pigeon Detectives is alive and well. He was hanging out in the guest area at Leeds all weekend wearing hideously bright red jeans.

Feeder's appeal is definitely becoming 'more selective'...

20 ...unlike Hadouken! who, despite what many people - us included - might think, are still absolutely, bafflingly enormous. 'That Boy, That Girl' might even be The People's Anthem Of The Weekend.

That whole Futureheads a cappella thingy continues to be something of an acquired taste.

22 Pure Love are better than Gallows. Sorry, lads.

23 Tubronegro rival The Hives for sheer entertainment value.

24 Elias from Iceage is slowly morphing into Aiden Grimshaw if his new haircut is anything to go by.

25 Chilli from Palma Violets thinks he's a star already: he was wearing shades ALL WEEKEND.



MORE ON NME.COM

o, we're guessing you've had enough of Reading and Leeds for another year. No? Well, fortunately for you, over on NME.COM there are literally HUNDREDS of amazing photos of all the goings on at the weekend, blogs and reviews of all the stuff you might have missed, and videos filled with

everything from, er, revealing interviews with Bombay Bicycle Club ("We go on naked runs") to walk-ons with Two Door Cinema Club and many more of the best acts at the best festival of the year. Hell, there's probably more than enough to keep you occupied for the 365 days until the next one.

THANK YOU!

Holly Jones,
Elizabeth Romano
and all at Festival
Republic
Kate Marriage,
Holly Brooker
and all at Spotify
Gillian Porter at
Hall Or Nothing PR
Toby Bryant and
all at Solution

Jared Pepall
Oxfam Stewards
Tuborg
Gaymers
Relentless
Pepsi
Posca Pens
Fender Guitars
Dominos
Moolis
Red Stripe



HAVE YOU SHOT THE YEAR'S MOST ROCK'N'ROLL PICTURE? WELL, ENTER THE NME MUSIC PHOTOGRAPHY AWARDS NOW!

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PLUS LISTEN TO SPOTIFY PLAYLISTS MADE JUST FOR YOU BY THE SIGNING TENT BANDS

REWS

THE BIG OPINIONS ON THIS WEEK'S IMPORTANT RELEASES

Edited by Tom Howard



BEACON KITSUNE

All-conquering tours and Olympic gold have turned the once gawky adolescents into swaggering indie-disco stars



ne of the reasons why the debut album by Northern Irish trio Two Door Cinema Club is so well loved is its impressive breadth. 'Tourist History', from 2010, sounds like the best bits of a particularly cool teenage boy's record collection. There's a hint of Bloc Party's stadium-packing squall on 'Cigarettes In The Theatre', a little of The Futureheads in the frenetic vocal harmonies of 'I Can Talk', the ghost of Death Cab For Cutie's Ben Gibbard in Alex Trimble's waifish vocal emoting. Oh yeah, and it's catchy. Really bloody catchy. Even the choruses have choruses.

But for all its ear-worming sleekness, there's a nervous quality to it - the trademark tentativeness of a band's debut. Take 'Eat That Up, It's Good For You', when Trimble shyly suggests: "You would look a little better, don't you know, if you just wore less make-up?", sounding for all the world like the class geek attempting to pay a backhanded compliment to a nonchalant hot girl. He needn't blush so much. Two Door's seamless amalgamation of the fey and the anthemic took off in a way that no-one expected, culminating in a triumphant turn from Alex at the Olympics opening ceremony. In front of a billion people on TV, Two Door were crowned the brightest new stars of the UK music scene. If that doesn't give Alex a confidence boost, nothing will.

'Beacon' finds Two Door Cinema Club casting off the shackles of their post-adolescent gawkiness.

If 'Tourist History' was the synth-tinged personification of classroom whispers, this second album finds Two Door whipping off their school ties, knotting them around their heads and inching their trainers onto the dancefloor. It blitzes in on a flurry of discordant, M83-style synth-fuzz, and while it doesn't stray

far from their trademark tinkly guitar lines and infectious choruses, it's laced with New Order-1sh disco trimmings. This is expanded upon in the gauzy 'Handshake', which finds the band venturing into the sort of glassy-eyed indie-disco perfected by the likes of Yeah Yeah

Yeahs. Metronomic synths and Alex's affected deadpan lead the track away from tackiness, towards dark Euro-disco - and a brief blast from some moody horns wraps the whole thing up. Musically, they've come on. Kevin Baird's bass work -always a highlight-is finally showcased to full effect on the 'Rip It Up'-style swagger of 'Wake Up' and the jagged riffing of 'Sun', while 'Pyramid' features some seriously impressive guitar noodles.

But although Two Door look good under disco lights, the turbulence of constant touring seems to have hit the band hard. Since 'Tourist History' they have played everywhere. And the woes of the infamously cramped tourbus lifestyle are explored on 'Next Year' ("I don't know where I am going to rest my head tonight"), while the mournful cry of "Everyone is here except for me" on 'The World is Watching' seems to suggest Alex is sick of missing out on news from home. References to a life on the road are scattered sporadically throughout 'Beacon'-in 'Sun' the band are "Torn apart through New York and London", while the opener 'Next Year' finds Alex soothing the song's subject with the promise that "I'll be home next year" - a promise the listener doubts will come to fruition, if the homesickness of the rest of the record is anything to go by. It's a noticeable difference from 'Tourist History', where lyrics only really existed to form choruses and scaffold refrains. On 'Beacon', Alex seems genuine. Plaintive, even.

It's part of what makes 'Beacon' undoubtedly a more sophisticated release than 'Tourist History'-even if, in places, it feels thematically confused. One half is a feverish disco explosion destined to ignite stadiums and bars, the other a maudlin rumination on travel and the concept of home. But they've alluded to this lack of focus in the album title, which, says bassist Kevin, is inspired by the idea of

being "stranded at sea, and aiming for this distant point, this beacon". Stranded they may be, treading water, finding their feet. But where they're heading sounds damn good. Katherine Rodgers

'BEACON'

-THE

Two Door on the big

albums they're up

against

MUSE Sam: "The last thing

they did was terrible.

It sounded like Queen

but more shite."

Alex: "The reason

Hove Muse so much

is because it's 50

huge and it's 50

theatrical in every

respect."

Kev: "I'm worried because I don't know

what this is gonna be.

They've always written

at least one or two good

songs on each record.

I'm not a massive Killers

fan but if I was I'd be

shitting myself that it's

gonna be awful,"

MUMFORD & SONS Alex: "We've had our own success but it's nice to see other people you know have that alongside you, and they've well surpassed us. They're fantastic songwriters."

BEST TRACKS: 'Next Year', 'Handshake', 'Sun'

THE VACCINES

THE VACCINES COME OF AGE COLUMBIA

Harsher, sleeker, better – the Londoners' second album is a subtle update of their sound, full of killer hooks and three-chord wallops



here are two fundamental points central to fully appreciating 'The Vaccines Come Of Age'.
Firstly, that Justin, Freddie,
Arni and Pete have only been a band for little over two years. Secondly, that they've already pumped out two records in this relatively short period of time.

Back in the '60s it was perfectly normal for bands to dish up albums at a rate of knots. The Beatles managed two full LPs per year, plus all manner of compilations and singles, for almost the entirety of their career. The Beach Boys, meanwhile, once managed a whopping four in 370 days. Not every one was bona fide gold-dust, true, but it meant you saw a band progressing in front of you, honing their craft and showing almost every ounce of what they had to offer. Sure, there's merit to selectively

showing the peaks of your arsenal and offering up a kind of Best Of of your last two or three years' writing. But with music digested and spat out more speedily than ever, surely it makes more sense to be as prolific as you possibly can?

'...Come Of Age', then, is not perfect, but it's a damn fine specimen of a band on the way to something great. As is to be expected with a group still essentially in its formative

stages, it teeters into new, unexpected ground and tests the water. Yet, truly, there's nothing forced or awkward here; all of The Vaccines' new sonic preoccupations are clearly born from another 18 months' experience rather than any designs on stadium-filling or credibilityswinging grandeur.

Take current live favourite 'Bad Mood', for example. It's a taut mosh-inducer that takes about four seconds to lock into your brain and

take root there. It takes everything you'd expect from The Vaccines and whittles it down into something harsher, sleeker and better, and it's probably the most concise example

yet of what the band are capable of.

Despite exploring many more tangents than their previous, mainline-hitting offering, there's still a central simplicity to the quartet's second effort. Where 'What Did You Expect...' shagged the bare bones of indie rock, taking its cues from three-chord wallops, '...Come Of Age' upscales melodically yet still maintains (in Justin's words) a kind of throwaway appeal. 'Ghost Town', which skanks along on ominous basslines and pushes the guitars to the background, has a completely different atmosphere to anything the band have done before, yet the lyrics essentially mean nothing. "No-one's about and it's kind of creepy/It's a big mistake when they say it's sleepy"

rumbles Justin, like the narrator from Funny Bones. It would be easy to criticise, but what would be the point? The Vaccines have never staked any claims to being deep.

There are moments, in the mildly embittered croon of 'I Wish I Was A Girl' ("Life is easy when you're easy on the eye") or beneath the deceptively perky riffs of 'Teenage Icon' ("I'm not magnetic or mythical/ I'm suburban and typical") where the singer is clearly addressing topics closer to the heart than fancying models and ill-advised fumbles beneath the sheets, but the record's peaks lie in the band's increasingly skilful way around a melody. 'Aftershave Ocean' and 'All In Vain' make for the biggest surprises -- lush and nostalgically sweet, they prove that The Vaccines can still write a killer hook without necessarily firing on all cylinders. 'Weirdo', meanwhile, is an introverted, almost grungetinged slow-burner.

Like anyone in their adolescence,
The Vaccines are still evolving and
finding out who they really are.
But '...Come Of Age' breezes
through their awkward
teenage phase with ease.
Lisa Wright

BEST TRACKS: 'Bad Mood',
'Aftershave Ocean', 'Weirdo'

THE VACCINES ON...

There's a different

atmosphere to what

they've done before

Justin: "I honestly don't give a shit if we're playing Wembley Stadium or Camden Barfly as long as it's full and people are believing and loving what we're doing."

...RECORDING THE ALBUM LIVE

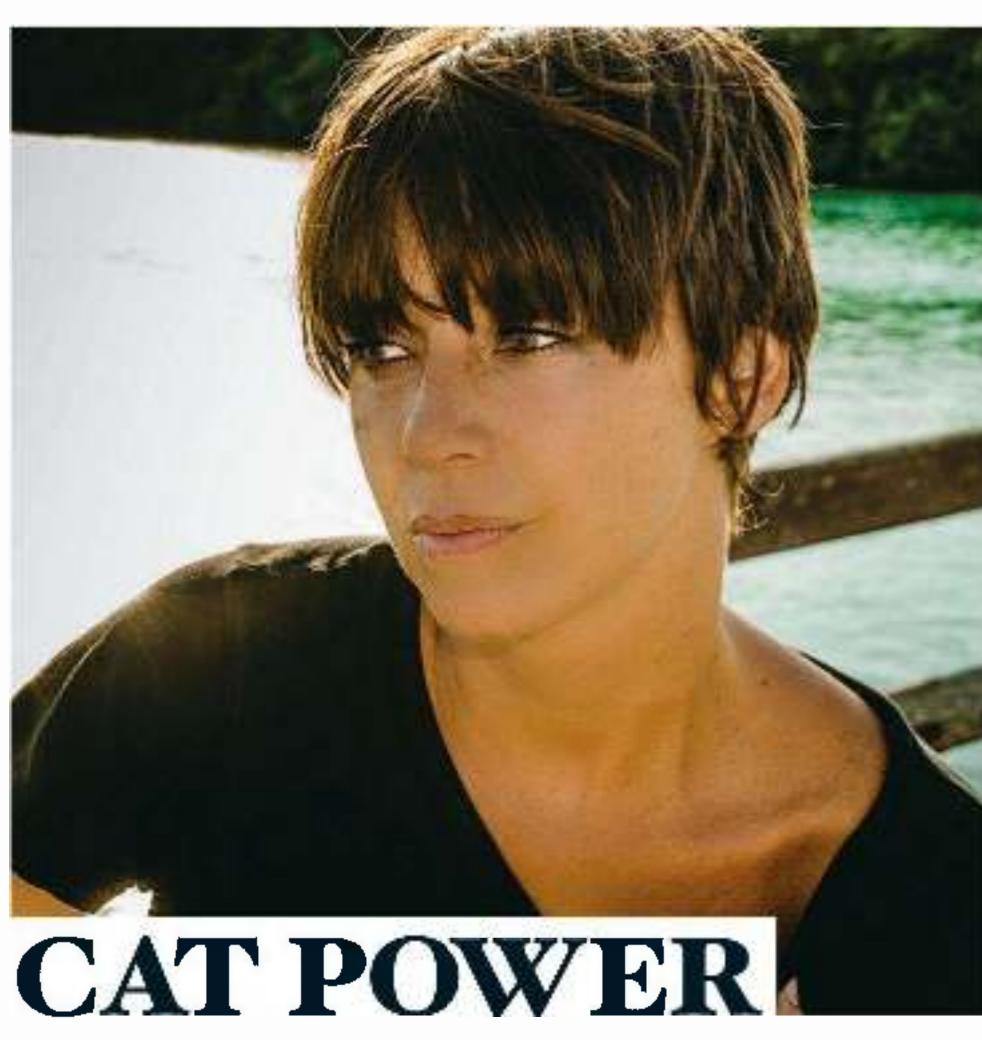
Freddie: "I don't think records should be perfection because it's unrealistic. Humans aren't perfect. It's not pleasurable to listen to perfection."

...WEIRD NOISES
Freddie: "Justin's got
this tic now because of a
throat problem he had,
and he does these vocal
warm-ups. And as the
album finishes it's really

quiet, and off-mic you can hear Justin's tic, to check his voice still works."

Pete: "Also there are a couple of doors slamming."





SUN PIAS

Studio trickery and a turn from Iggy Pop as the world's most intense life coach ensure that 'Sun' shines



To say that Cat Power's ninth album gets off to a bleak start would be a little bit of an exaggeration. Sure, when alt-folk firebrand Chan Marshall utters "I never knew pain like

this/When everything dies" over the snowballing trip-folk of 'Cherokee' like Beth Orton double-dropping capsules of St John's Wort, it's not the most heart-lifting of sentiments. But among the shuffling breakbeats, the afterglow of a love she puts on a par with "the wind, the moon, the earth, the sky" burns bright. It's full-on stuff. But who the hell goes to Cat Power for wishy-washy sentiment and half-baked emotion?

It's not just feelings that are pushed to the limit on 'Sun'. Five years in the making, it sits in stark contrast to 2008's loungey covers collection 'Jukebox' and the reclining Memphis strings and horns of 2006's 'The Greatest', as Marshall wrings everything she possibly can out of the studio. Here the mixing desk is an instrument as indispensable as her Marlboro-whittled purr. While it isn't quite Dylan-going-electric, indic purists might still take umbrage at Marshall's evolution, notably the 'Telstar'-style synths and multi-tracked vocals on the sci-fi skiffle of the title track. It seems like there are five of her singing on 'Sun', while the layered chorus on sly Southern rocker 'Silent Machine' creates an enveloping kind of distortion.

At times things seem a touch over-produced - something that's always a risk when you spend half a decade working on 11 tracks. But mostly, Marshall's thickly layered studio shenanigans make 'Sun' shine. Trickling prano, throbbing drums and melodic mertia turn 'Ruin' into an organic funk masterpiece, while 'Peace And Love' - a Kills-esque slab of raw garage with lyrics that pitch hippie idealism against self-preservation - is intensely steamy. She strips things back on 'Human Being', resting the weight of the song on grand lyrical themes instead of extravagant sonics, while 'Manhattan' hosts a rhythmic, key-led energy, as if Regina Spektor were pacing empty corridors in the Hotel Chelsea.

The 11-minute-long 'Nothin But Time' pitches itself as the focal point of the album, a wash of pulsating Primal Scream psychedelics. She's been through some heavy shit, from battles with alcoholism to mental breakdowns and stints in rehab, so it's no surprise that she's decided an inspirational epic is in order. Marshall hollers, "Never give away your body... never ever give in", telling the listener they can be a "superhero" while guest backing vocalist Iggy Pop barks in the background like the world's most intense life coach. It's empowering. Life-affirming. And just some of many words of wisdom on 'Sun' to come from the mouth of wise auntie Chan. Leonie Cooper

BEST TRACKS: 'Manhattan', 'Silent Machine', 'Nothin But Time'

FACES TO LAMES... What the reviewers are doing this week



JENNY STEVENS "I went, with joy, to see Blur in Margate. Then I wept when I saw them at Hyde Park, and got sweaty with Nas at the 100 Club,"



LEONIE COOPER "I've just visited Tribes at LA's legendary Sound City Studios. I touched Johnny Cash's piano and am now never washing my hands again."



KEVIN EG PERRY "I've been sipping gin'n'juice with Snoop Lion in Budapest. Despite the reggae name change, the Dogg is still up to his old tricks."

JENS LEKMAN I KNOW WHAT LOVE ISN'T

SECRETLY CANADIAN



Over the years, Swedish fella Jens has taken us on all kinds of journeys in his songs, from hating on over-zealous cab drivers to unsuccessfully chasing

Kirsten Dunst around Gothenburg, 'I Know What Love Isn't', though, is about his most recent break-up. And while in the past he's dealt with break-ups with a healthy smattering of LOLs, this time he's far gloomier. "You don't get over a broken heart, you just learn to carry it gracefully", he swoons on 'The World Moves On'. Sure, it's a tougher listen than usual, but it's still laden with lashings of classic Lekman pop hooks and a vocal that's sweeter than a Swedish cinnamon bun. Jenny Stevens BEST TRACK: 'I Know What Love Isn't'

CALEXICO

ALGIERS CITY SLANG



To observe that Calexico have, on recent albums, become noticeably more stonefaced and sensibly adult might invite the question: when were they not? Well,

the Arizona ensemble's marriage of desolate country-rock and mariachi music never pitched itself at the youth - but there used to be blaring trumpets and daring attitude too. 'Algiers', their seventh album, is far less surface-level appealing, but the sad twang of a pedal steel and Joey Burns' rich lyrical imagery draw you in, and depth and craftsmanship is slowly revealed. 'Para' might produce curious converts, if only for sounding weirdly like 'Paranoid Android', while 'Puerto' is the border-jumping highlight. **Noel Gardner BEST TRACK: 'Puerto'**

DINOSAUR JR IBET ON SKY PIAS



What happens to reformed bands that overstay their initial nostalgia-driven welcome? It's rare for them to make notable new music, and it's even

rarer for their third album since reuniting to yield some of their best work. 'I Bet On Sky' can't hope to compete with the glory-era Dinosaur of the late '80s, and nor does it try. Instead, we find them expertly pulling off previously alien tricks such as nuance and pianos to complement J Mascis' effortless fretboard heroics and perma-jaded vocals. The sun-frazzled mood occasionally edges towards torpor but Dinosaur are rescued by their restlessness. Loud, weighty but oddly civilised. Thom Gibbs

BEST TRACK: 'Pierce The Morning Rain'

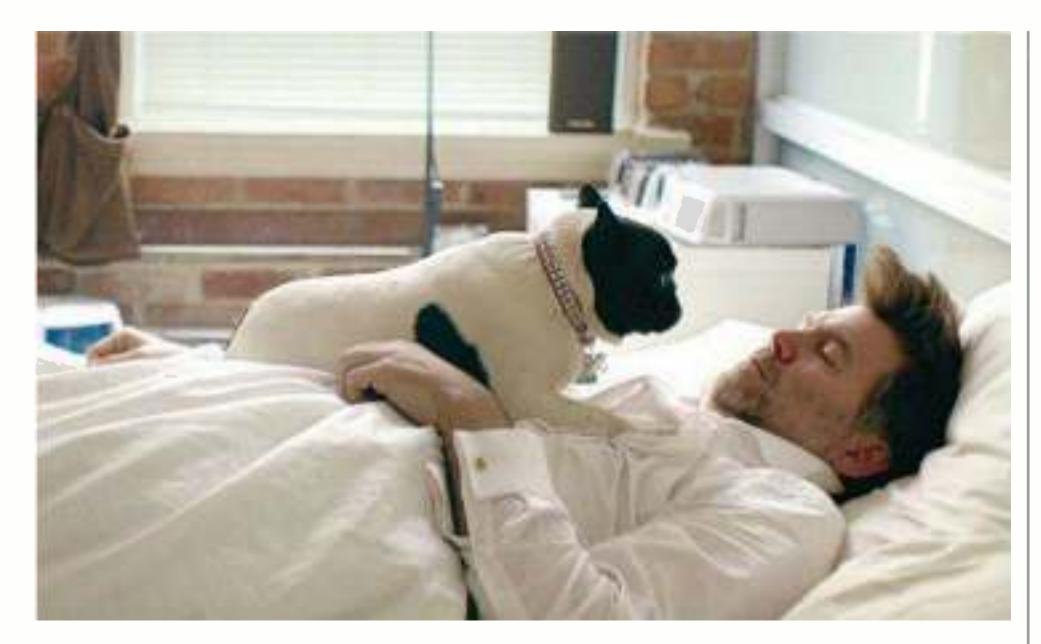
EDGAR SUMMERTYME SENSE OF HARMONY VIPER



In a parallel universe, Edgar 'Summertyme' Jones is as revered as Messrs Marr, Weller and Gallagher, N ~ his three most vocal fans. Jones has

been making music since the early '90s, when he spearheaded Liverpool's great nearly band The Stairs, and his latest opus is his most triumphant since 2005's 'Soothing Music For Stray Cats', which itself is one of the last decade's finest albums. It breathes life: from the gloriously rhythmic exoticism of 'On And On' (owing much to the great Latin label, Fania Records), to 'I Would Do Anything', which is the tastiest song Amy Winehouse never wrote. Another heroic masterpiece from rock's lost golden boy, then.

Matt Wilkinson **BEST TRACK: 'I Would Do Anything'**



LCD SOUNDSYSTEM: SHUT UP AND PLAY THEHITS

James Murphy walks offstage. Tears, breakdown and existential crisis ensue. That's one hell of a hangover



is not a conventional documentary. There's no

It starts, appropriately enough, at the end, with the feedback reverberating from the final song of the final LCD Soundsystem show as roadies pack away the band's gear for the very last time. Then we jump forward to James Murphy, alone and hungover, the morning after the very public retirement of his band at Madison Square Garden on April 2, 2011. What emerges in these scenes, and the days and hours before the show,

band biography. No talking heads spouting anecdotes. Just the story of James Murphy's decision, as American comedian Stephen Colbert put it in the frontman's last TV interview, to "walk away from fame". Murphy is still not sure it's the right decision. He tells American journalist Chuck Klosterman that he worries he's quitting because he's scared of failing, but knows he has to stop because touring is ageing him. It's the same fear outlined in the first LCD Soundsystem single, 'Losing My Edge', which Murphy describes as "as serious as a heart attack", despite the track's humour. For three hours onstage at Madison Square Garden he sings the smartest songs of the last decade, then crumples up the lyric sheets and tosses them away. He cries during 'Someone Great'. Fans weep at the finale. Murphy's breakdown comes the next day, contemplating the gear waiting to be sold. A life in boxes.

If the film has a flaw, it's the singer's interview with Klosterman, whose grand theories confuse Murphy's motives rather than clarify them. But you'll get it, because this isn't just a film about LCD. It's for anyone who's woken up feeling older than yesterday, and questioned what they're doing with their lives. The human condition never sounded so good. Kevin EG Perry

INSANE CLOWN POSSE THE MIGHTY DEATH POP!

PSYCHOPATHIC



ICP have been making violent fantasist rap since OFWGKTA were in their Supreme baby rompers, and their 12th album finds the pair in contemplative

mood. "My nutbag tastes like Faygo Grape!" claims Shaggy 2 Dope in 'Juggalo Juice', an ode to their preferred fizzy beverage. As you might expect, this is a uniquely awful affront to good taste which runs the gamut from sampling Hot Chocolate's 'Everyone's A Winner' (on the title track) to exploring the mind of late wrestler Chris Benoit. And it's sadistically long, so only the most ardent of Juggalos need apply. Kristian Dando

BEST TRACK: You are joking

THE Rider What we're ogling, coveting and wearing this week



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THIS WEEK'S SINGLES reviewed by NMEs PRIYA

GOTYE

I FEEL BETTER UNIVERSAL



We're pretty sure that when things like "BEARDED COLLIE SINGS 'SOMEBODY THAT I USED TO KNOW" start popping up on the internet, it's time to a) Cash in

and start a chain of French swimwear shops called 'Somebody That I Jacques Cousteau'; or b) Record a mildly shit Motown pastiche for the follow-up. Gotye's chosen the latter.

ALANIS MORISSETTE

GUARDIAN COLUMBIA



Alanis will always be tied to her most high-profile period - specifically, when she was Pissed Off With Some Guy In The '90s. Such is her fate, the bright,

new-ageisms of 'Guardian' can never compare to such golden-age couplets of venom as "You took a long, hard look at my ass/And then played golf for a while" from 1995's 'See Right Through You'.

AMELIA LILY

YOU BRING ME JOY SYCO



On The X Factor, Amelia Lily's 'thing' was singing in the style of someone really, really angry at something really, really mundane. And so it is on her

debut single. She delivers each line with an atonal, generalised fury, like she's reeling off the shades of Dulux white paint B&O didn't have.

KINDNESS

THAT'S ALRIGHT POLYDOR



Doing a sleek re-tread of the go-go classic from Trouble Funk called 'Still Smokin" is one thing; adding in a chorus that sounds like it's sung by Kid Creole's

Coconuts is quite another. Adam Bainbridge continues his run of intelligent, timelessly funky singles with another corker.

P!NK

BLOW ME (ONE LAST KISS) RCA



A friend of mine recently sat me down and said, "You need to stop using so many exclamation marks. You're 33!" They were probably right. And I can't

help but suggest a similar thing to P!nk, who's 32 and still sporting a zinging "!" in her name, and therefore quite close to being the musical equivalent of the middle-aged woman in the office who wears her hair in bunches and does all her inventory in highlighter pen on Miffy stationery. This comeback song, with its vacuous call-to-arms to no-one in particular, does not help matters.

SCOUTING FOR GIRLS

SUMMERTIME IN THE CITY SONY BMG

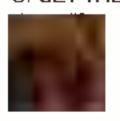


Who are Scouting For Girls? How have they not been a) Under rigorous investigation by the Child Protection Services for their name; b) Demonised

for their habit of carelessly dropping their "h"s in the style of Johnny Depp "not talking proper innit"; and c) Stopped from making this 'summer' offering with a riff more seal-clubbingly annoying than 'Chelsea Dagger"? Please write to your local MP if you have the answers.

THE PHEROMOANS **DOES THIS GUY STACK UP?**

UPSET THE RHYTHM



The Pheromoans might not score top marks for originality, but sometimes stealing from the best is enough. Coming on like the scuffed-collar offspring of

The Fall and Joy Division, these Londoners explore their car-boot instruments with such abandon and hell-for-second-hand-leather vitality that they could soundtrack everything from council estates to coffeetable chats. Check the tsunami of consciousness that is 'Power Watch': "I want a puppy, a loft extension and a threesome, and silver shoes and preferably a Mercedes/Because I am entitled, it was decreed". 8

Frequently stunning. Jazz Monroe **BEST TRACK: 'The Final Sugar Rush'**



debut with a feast of buzz bands and local heroes. The five best bits? Let's see...

1. WILD BEASTS' HOMECOMING TRIUMPH

Situated in the picturesque Yorkshire Dales, between Wild Beasts' hometown of Kendal and the city of Leeds where they made it big, Beacons provides Wild Beasts with an adoring crowd. They sway with shut-eyed passion during 'This Is Our Lot', then erupt into a mass falsetto during 'All The King's Men'. As Hayden Thorpe and co rip through what have become classics from 'Two Dancers', they command ale-fuelled, group-hugging jubilance.

2. WILLIS EARL BEAL'S **ACE STAGE SHOW**

Last time we saw Willis, he was drenched in whiskey and clambering about on rickety stools with very little regard for his own safety. The 28-yearold from Chicago has upped his game since then, and we're wide-eyed as he throws shapes and poses, casting shadows across the stage. There's also new depth to his soulful vocals.

'Evening's Kiss' stands out, as Willis crouches in blue light with steam rising from his shoulders and the song evolves from lo-fr folk into powerful soul around him.

3. PATRICK WOLF MELTING HEARTS

As Patrick Denis Apps strides onstage wearing a Grecian-style decoration on his head and accompanied by a cellist and a violinist, Skipton awaits a treat. The show's a billion miles from his usual bombast. Thoughts of mud, rain and eternal backache disappear as Wolf creates an intimate cabaret setting. As he sits at his piano, the folky troubadour in him makes way for the flamboyant, romantic crooner. "This is a triumph for me," he announces before playing a string-driven 'House', melting hearts as he changes the lyric from "Suffolk" to "Skipton stone".

4. THIS AIN'T VEGAS **BEING BACK**

Sunderland chaps This Ain't Vegas

(featuring members of B>E>A>K and Coal Train) left a hole in the heart of the northern DIY scene when they split in 2009. Even those opposed to nostalgic reuntons couldn't grumble when they got back together this summer for a friend's stag do. Fans howl along to 'Promotion' ("What's the use in promotion / without a decent grasp of number?"), and the brutal post-punk of 'Been Party' and 'How Clear Can You Be?' sounds as spritely as they did first time around.

5. MAYA JANE COLES CLOSING THE WHOLE SHEBANG

The perfect end to Beacons is provided by 25-year-old Londoner Maya Jane Coles' uplifting house music. Entering the tent on Sunday night, it feels like an entirely different festival - a world apart from the frequently testosterone-heavy atmosphere of the band stages. The old-school grace of 'Watcher' brings about a suitably blissful end to the weekend. Hayley Avron

VIEW FROM THE CROWD Band of the weekend?



Sonia, 31, Leeds "Patrick Wolf. We came for him, really, It was like a mad Sunday tea party."



Lewis, 22, Barnet "For me, it had to be Willis Earl Beal. The guy's completely wild."



Felix, 24, Leeds "Willie Nelson... No! Who was it? Willy Mason, Or Roots Manuva."

GREENMAN FESTIVAL

GLANUSK PARK, WALES AUGUST 17-19

Beefed-up security and apocalyptic rain just add to the fun on the Brecon Beacons

For location alone it's easy to see why Green Man is Wales' biggest festival. The hills. The lovely hills. Now in its ninth year, it has beefed-up security fences and everything. Metronomy bag the Saturday night headline slot and whirl through 'The English Riviera', dedicating their set to the blokes who pushed their Ford Mondeo out of the carpark mudbath earlier in the day. 'The Look' - one of the most inescapable tracks of the last year - is the biggest hitter. They find time to crank up the dirge with oldie 'You Could Easily Have Me', reminding us how far they've come since their 2006 debut. Feist takes to the main stage on Sunday flanked by a 'Free Pussy Riot' banner, and gets the crowd to sing a threepart harmony. A double encore ensues, but there's no sign of '1234' - a glaring omission that leaves a dult taste. After Sunday morning's apocalyptic rain,

Alt-J prove they've got the muscle to drag in the hordes from a rare moment of sunshine to watch a flawless set in the Far Out tent. The weather doesn't dampen Friends' spirits either, who inject a bit of sassy Brooklyn party vibe to proceedings. But it's Daughter who make the most startling debut on the festival circuit this year, as their lush melodies bring the weekend to a smouldering close. Jenny Stevens





YEASAYER

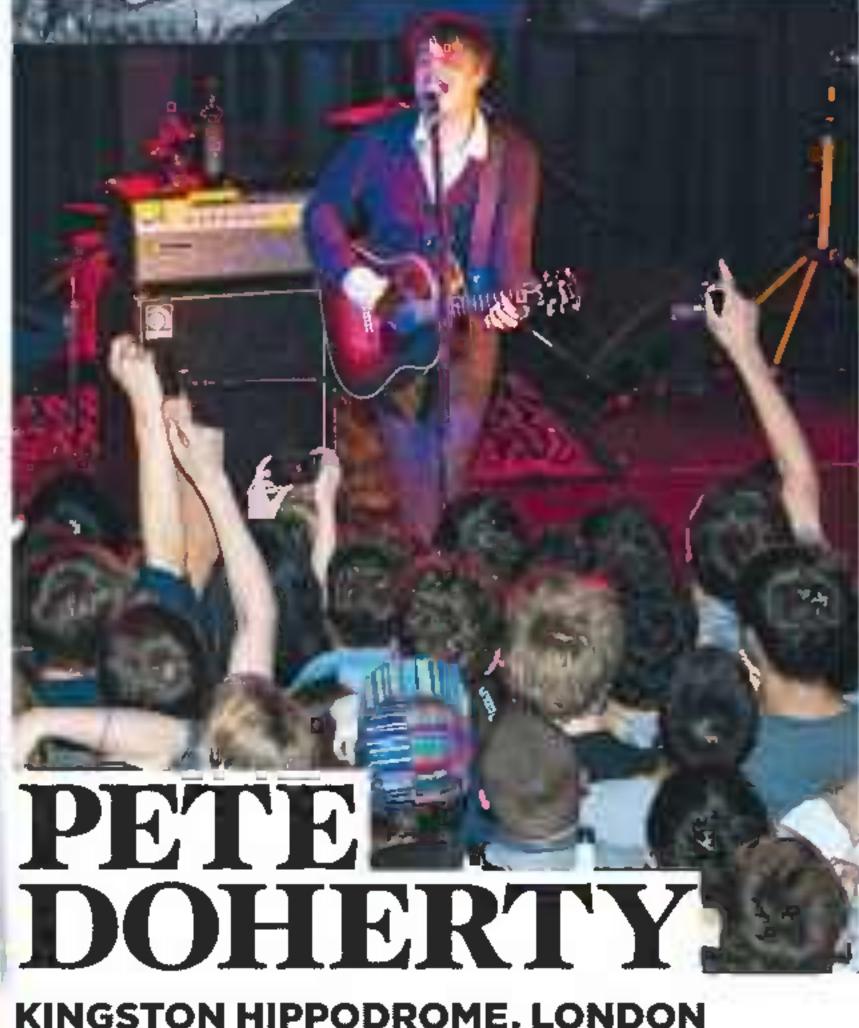
MUSIC HALL OF WILLIAMSBURG, **NEW YORK** THURSDAY, AUGUST 16

here are people watching this in Serbia!" yells Yeasayer's Chris Keating, as cameras beam this show across the world. Cameras or not, they've started applying their theory that more is always more to their live show. Silver bowls on strings flank the stage. Robotic voices announce the band's arrival. Only their biggest hits - 'ONE', '2080' - convince people to dance, while gimmicks paste over turgid new tracks. During 'Demon Road' Keating pulls off the fresh orchids that are stuck on his keyboard and flings them about. Maybe Serbia was watching, but it must've been confused. Hazel Sheffield

REFUSED

MANCHESTER ACADEMY TUESDAY, AUGUST 14

ourteen years after Dennis Lyxzén and his fist-pumping Swedes declared they'd never play again, Refused have reunited to dominate stages the world over this summer. Tonight they embark on defeating sceptics in the hardcore humidity inside Manchester Academy. The first sign that they can command the 2,000-strong crowd as a headliner is the throat-clenching 'Rather Be Dead', and from then on it's carnage. They end the 75-minute set with a double whammy from the seminal 'The Shape Of Punk To Come' ('New Noise' and 'Tannhauser') and everyone leaves the venue feeling conquered. Kelly Murray



KINGSTON HIPPODROME, LONDON

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16

Smart, sober and - wait for it - early onstage!Goodbye ex-Libertine of old. Hello shiny new Pete

Every time we think we've got of P-Do sussed, the contrary bastard goes and surprises us again Earlier this year everything was going brilliantly-he'd written new tunes, was preparing for his cinematic debut in Confession Of 4 Child Of The Century, and had less negative column inches than ever. Then he got kicked out of Thai rehab for being a disruption in a place designed to help

people who are, by nature, disruptive. So at his first UK gig since this little debacle, it wouldn't be too out of line to expect a bit of a shit-shower. But no.

Arriving onstage five minutes early (yep, your cycs don't deceive you), Doherty is on the best form we've seen in ages. He's so professional it's almost a bit weird. There are no slightly crackylooking 'special guests', no meandering half sung/ half forgotten tidbits. He's as close to a normal, consummate artist as, perhaps, he has ever been. And although it makes for a different atmosphere to the ramshackle norm, he's got one hell of a setlist.

Libertines-heavy and with barely any filler (Doherty keeps strumming a few bars of some of his solo work, then thinks better of it and launches into a classic), tonight is basically a greatest hits set. A little warm-up and we're into 'Time For Heroes'; then, with harmonica strapped on, comes the Dickensian whitnsy of 'Arcady' and a huge, singalong Music When The

Lights Go Out'. Almost to years old, it's still as

joyously affecting as ever. We get 'Up The Bracket', "The Boy Lool ed At Johnny' and 'What A Waster'. We get the peaks of his 'Shambles arsenal ('I uck Forever', 'Beg, Steal Or Borrow') and his solo efforts ('Sheepskin Tearaway') and just enough curveballs (in new track 'Down For The Outing' and a full cover of The Beatles' 'She Loves You') to remind us that this is still Pete. It is, by all accounts, an unexpected triumph. Now here's hoping his next surprise is just as

positive. Lisa Wright

'Time For Heroes' 'Arcady' 'Music When The Lights Go Out' 'What A Waster' 'Lady Don't Fall Backwards' 'Last Of The English Roses' 'Untitled New Song' 'She Loves You' 'Beg, Steal Or Borrow' 'The Good Old Days' 'Down For The Outing' 'Up The Bracket' 'Sheepskin Tearaway' 'Can't Stand Me Now' 'The Boy Looked At Johnny' 'Fuck Forever' 'Merry Go Round'



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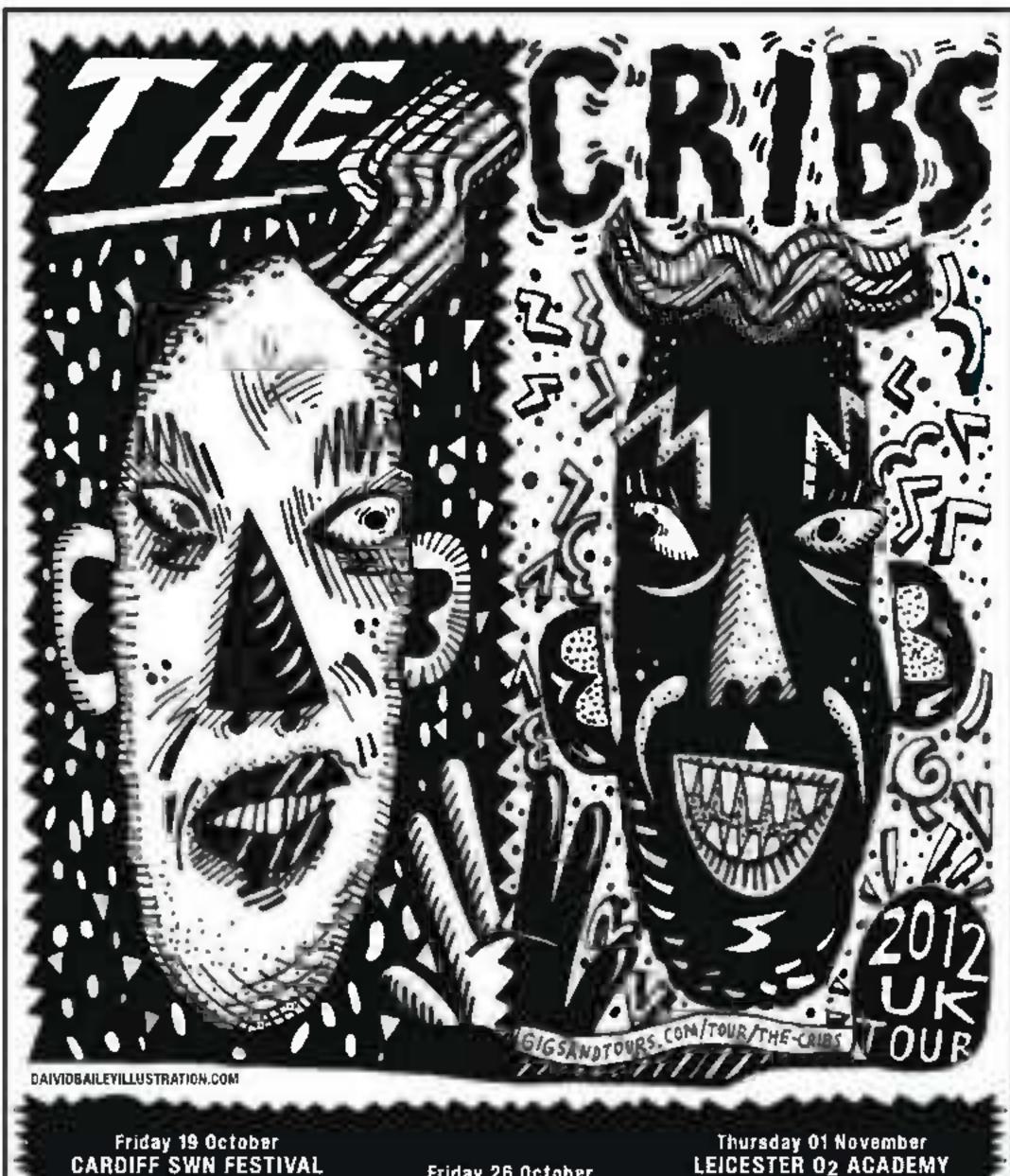
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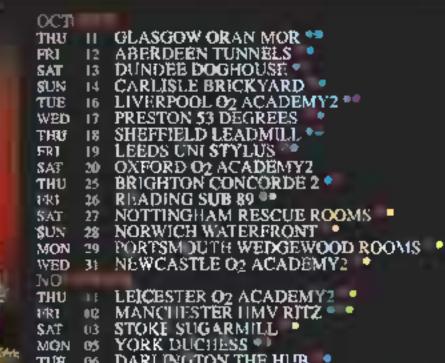
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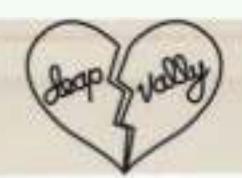
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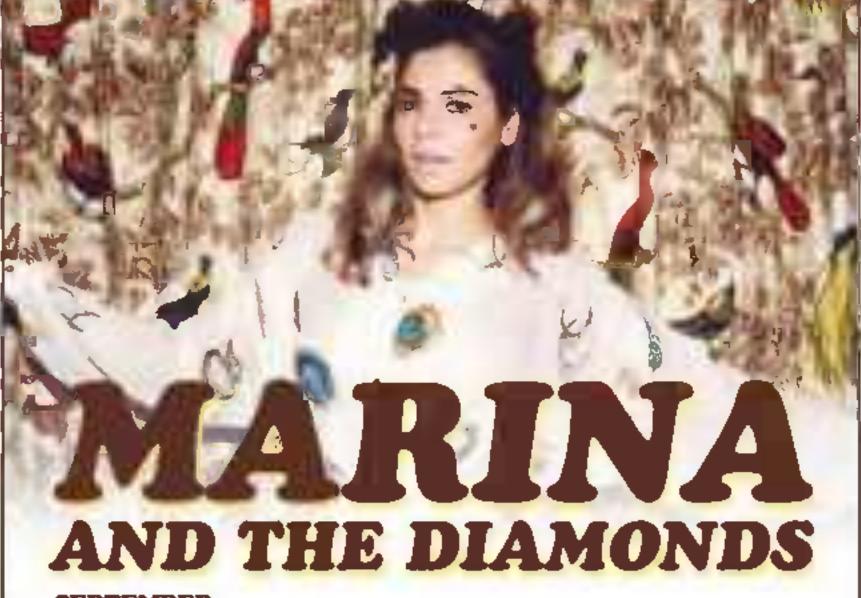
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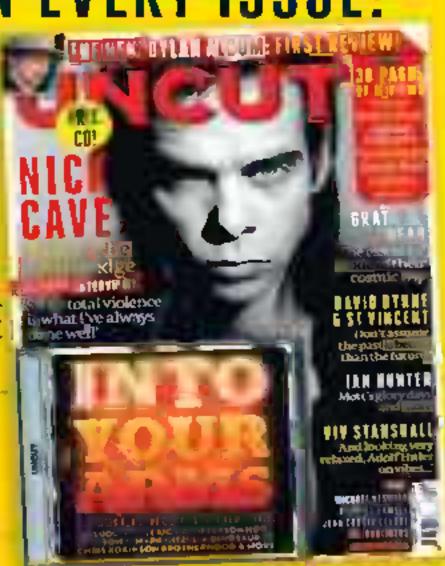
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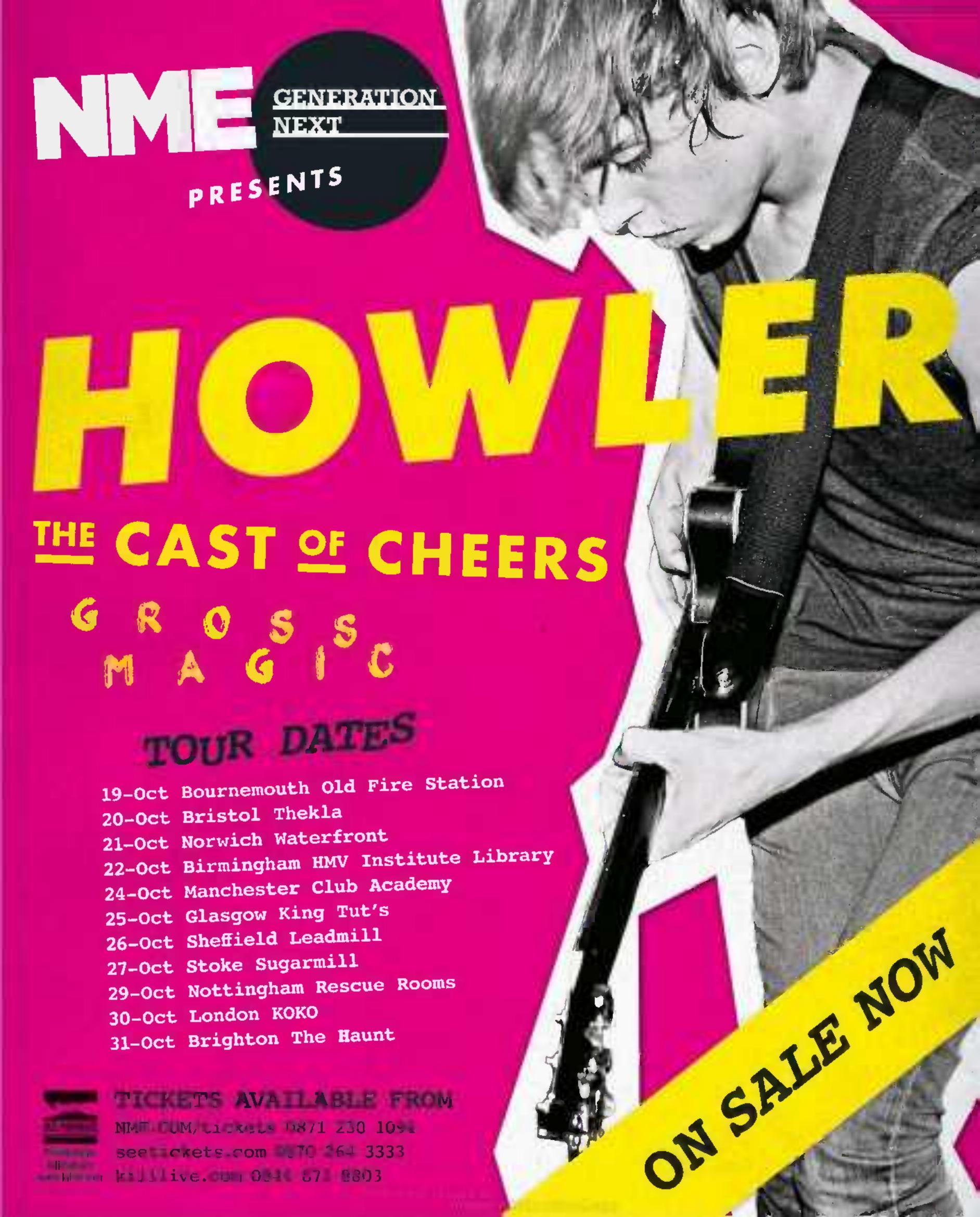
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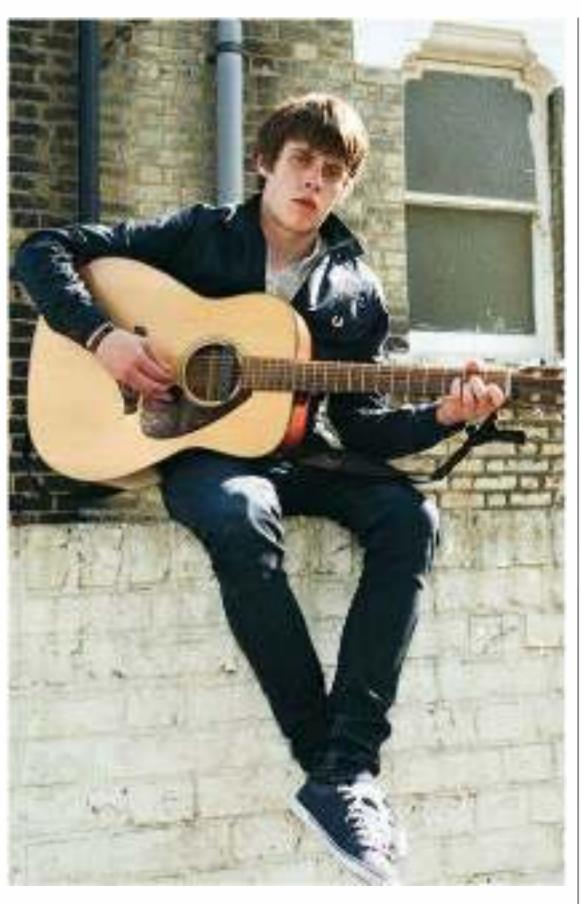


GGGGUDE

THE UK'S BIGGEST GUIDE TO THE WEEK AHEAD Edited by Siân Rowe

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BOKINGNOW



JAKE BUGG STARTS: Birmingham, HMV Institute, Nov 12

DON'T MISS

Lily Allen digs him, Damon Albarn loves him, and even Elton John has given him a huge stamp of approval. Yes, it's Nottingham boy wonder Jake Bugg and, come this autumn, you'll be on board too. Having spent the summer under the wing of Noel Gallagher (at the other end of the pop scale, he's also supported Lana Del Rey) Jake will play his self-titled debut album up and down the UK this November. Expect a set of quick-fire guitar songs about everything from old friends and the Nottinghamshire countryside to skinning up and drinking White Lightning. He'll travel to Birmingham (Nov 12), Portsmouth (Nov 13), London (Nov 14), Bristol (Nov 15), Manchester (Nov 17), Leeds (Nov 18), York (Nov 19), Glasgow (Nov 21), Newcastle (Nov 22) and Nottingham (Nov 23).



CHAINS OF LOVE STARTS: London, Hoxton Bar & Kitchen, Sep 26

The garage-soul duo revive their album 'Strange Grey Days' just in time for the autumn. They finish up in Brighton on October 2.



STARTS: London, The Lexington, Oct 1

The London band tour their debut album 'Wild Peace'. They play 11 dates including Wish You Were Here Fest in Cambridge, and Dingwalls supporting POBPAH.



Frog & Fiddle, Oct 10 Looping and noodling aboy! Tall Ships are taking their album 'Everything Touching' on a 14-date tour in October, ending in their hometown, Falmouth, on Oct 25.



SWN FESTIVAL

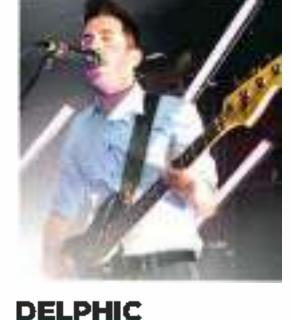
STARTS: Cardiff. Various Venues, Oct 18 Pulled Apart By Horses, Toy and Splashh have all joined the line-up for this year's Swn Festival. Liars headline the annual



ROLO TOMASSI

STARTS: Bristol, Fleece, Oct 21

The rock grafters have announced their annual tour of the UK. This time they'll visit 10 UK cities with Oathbreaker and Goodtime Boys along for the ride.



STARTS: Glasgow, The Arches, Oct 22

The Manchester band road-test 'Acolyte' with a nine-date tour. "We just want to make a really great record," they say. Sure it'll be good live too.



2:54

STARTS: Nottingham, Bodega Social Club, Oct 27

Catch the Thurlow sisters at Sheffield's Leadmill (Oct 29), Manchester's Soup Kitchen (Nov 1) and Guildford's Boileroom (Nov 6).



Welsh party.

JAKWOB STARTS: London,

and Dems join him.

Cargo, Nov 1 Dubstep DJ and producer Jakwob (wob, wob, wob, wob) plays a special fand friends' date to kick off November, Bebe Black



SKREAMIZM STARTS: London, Electric Brixton, Nov 9

One third of Magnetic Man DJs at this special London date. "It's about people going out, zoning in, and actually becoming at one with the music," he says.



BLOOD DIAMONDS

STARTS: London, Birthdays, Nov 12

The eccentric Grimes collaborator has announced a UK date at London's Birthdays basement in November. Expect glitz.



BUGGED OUT! WEEKENDER

STARTS: Bognor Regis, Butlins, Jan 18, 2013

The weekend party adds new names including Blawan, Annie Mac and Benga. Toddla T and Erol Alkan are also performing.



EXAMPLE STARTS: Bournemouth,

BIC, Feb 11, 2013 Example will visit stadiums across the country in 2012, from the Nottingham

PICK of the WEEK

What to see this week? Let us help



GRIMES

STARTS: Glasgow, The Arches, Aug 29

NME PICK

This year we've seen Grimes play in a field, under a railway arch and in a kitsch strip club. We've seen her with blonde hair, pink hair and kind of muddy green hair. And we've seen her go from being a strange outsider known and loved by people who own the entire No Pain In Pop back catalogue to an instantly recognisable artist with a much-loved album (her third, 'Visions' - buy it now). But if you remain undecided as to whether she's the synth-spangled saviour of indie or just an alt-karaoke chancer, take one of your last chances to see her in the UK this year. Over the next two weeks she'll lug her pedals and things that go 'oooooohhhhhh' to Glasgow (Aug 29), Manchester (Aug 30), Ireland's Electric Picnic (Sep 1) and London (Aug 5 & 6). And when she eventually returns? "I want to start bringing dancers along and have them wear crazy shit," she said recently. "I want them to be topless, covered in glitter... and wear S&M headmasks." Sounds aight.



Everyone's Talking About **WILLIS EARL BEAL**

STARTS: Glasgow, The Art School, Aug 30

Willis' last visit to Europe ended in controversy (when he allegedly kicked a tramp in the face) but don't expect his live show to have lost any of its bolshy power when he returns to the UK this week. He'll play No Mean City (Glasgow's celebration of Americana) on Thursday, then End Of The Road festival.



Don't Miss GRIZZLY BEAR STARTS: Nottingham, Albert Hall, Aug 29

Whether you think they make po-faced sit-down music or are the most beautiful thing ever to drift from Brooklyn, there's no denying the Grizzle B's put on a ridiculously good show. The vocals aren't auto-tuned. They've got an Omnichord, They make grown men cry. Songs from forthcoming album 'Shields' will be a worthy addition to their set.



Radar Stars 1234 FESTIVAL

STARTS: London, Shoreditch Park, Sep 1

The Hoxton triangle's festival is back, and like last year they've assembled east London (and beyond's) scuzziest and grubbiest new bands. Garage slacker Gross Magic, the gloomy Drop Out Venus and the ragey Zulu are all on our list, as well as the reliably ferocious Iceage. This year's 'token legend' is Mark Stewart of The Pop Group.

WEDNESDAY

August 29

BIRMINGHAM

Charlotte Carpenter Flapper 0121 236 2421

Gurdan Thomas/The Dirty Old Folkers/Sick Boys Club Yardbird 0121 212 2524

Karma To Burn/Desert Storm/ Alunah Asylum 0121 233 1109 **Kimbra** Glee Club 0870 241 5093 Subtotal/Alex Warburton Adam &

Eve 0121 693 1500 BRIGHTON

Emersis/Ivy King Belushi's 01273 202035

BRISTOL

CARDSF

The Migraines/Piss On Authority Croft (Front Bar) 0117 987 4144

Paul Kelly Thekla 08713100000

Surrender The Bartender/Exiled Urban Foxes/Lifeline Fleece 0117 945 0996

Violas Undertone 029 2022 8883

CARLISLE The Alleys/Jakarta Club Brickyard 01228 512 220

COVERTING Saves The Day Kasbah 024 7655 4473

Seth Faergolzia Taylor John's House 024 7655 9958

EDINBURGH

Mark Lanegan Band/Creature With The Atom Brain/Snowgoose HMV Picture House 0844 847 1740

Three Blind Wolves/We Were **Promised Jetpacks Electric Circus** 0131 226 4224

GLASGOW

Grimes Arches 0141 221 4001 Kids In Glass Houses/The **Lafontaines** The Garage 0141 332 1120

The Sweetback Sisters Stereo 0141 576 5018

HOVE

Spirit Brunswick 01273 735254 HILL

Jeffrey Lewis & The Junkyard New Adelphi 01482 348 216

LEEDS

Deer Tick Brudenell Social Club 0113 243 5866

The Diamond Lights/Nightmare Air Santiago 0113 244 4472 Mojah Sela Bar 0113 242 9442

Wot Gorilla?/Mahogany Hand **Glider** Nation Of Shopkeepers 0113 203 1831

LEICESTER

lan Siegal Musician 0116 251 0080 LONDON

Arabrot/Lupins Black Heart 020 7428 9730

Clip Stamp Fold/The Hazeltones/ Age Of Pilots New Cross Inn. 020 8692 1866

Darren Hayman/The Long Parliament The Lexington 020 7837 5387

The Deep Dark Woods/Jackle **Greene Borderline 020 7734 5547** Dive Bella Dive Underworld

020 7482 1932 Emilia Martensson/Maddy Whitney

Spice Of Life 020 7437 7013 Emma Jane/Oneness/Sankara Bar Solo 020 7482 4611

Eugene McGuinness/The Din Notting Hill Arts Club 0207 460 4459 Everyone Everywhere/Chalk Talk Fighting Cocks 020 8546 5174 The Fix Boogaloo 020 8340 2928

Fletcher/Canary Swing/Ryker Sear Barfly 0870 907 0999

Forestears/Louis Checkley Prince Albert 020 8894 3963

Franz Nicolay Boston Arms 020 7272 8153 Holy Other/Vessel/Fort Romeau

Village Underground 020 7422 7505 House Of Hats/Lilliput Strongroom

Imogen Heap Royal Albert Hall 020 7589 8212

Lettle Half Moon 020 7274 2733 Listener/Adam Barnes/Fallacies Peel 020 8546 3516

Liv & The Lionhardts/Mandezi/ Patrick Craig Zigfrid Von Underbeily 020 7613 1988

The Low Anthem Bush Hall 020 8222 6955

020 7928 7616

Memoryhouse/FUR5 Hoxton Square Bar and Kitchen 020 7613 0709 Patrick Wolf/Abi Wade Old Vic

Pee Wee Ell's Ronnie Scott's 020 7439 0747

Peter Rowan Old Queens Head 020 7354 9993

Revelin Sky/Falcon Dublin Castle 020 7485 1773

Sian King Slaughtered Lamb 020 8682 4080

Simon James Onlons/Chiara Giacobbe Betsey Trotwood

020 7336 7326 Stead/Tom Taylor/Kalamity Kate Cavendish Arms 0207 627 0698

Steven Bor/Sam Larner/ Phoebe Larner Troubadour Club 020 7370 1434

Unborn Twin/Hadley Fraser/ The Electric Modern 93 Feet East 020 7247 6095

Von Haze Shacklewell Arms 020 7249 0810

William Control/Obscure Pleasures/Ashestoangels 02

Academy Islington 0870 477 2000 Zun Zun Egul/Dawn Hunger Power **Lunches Arts Cafe**

MANCHESTER **Bush Manchester Academy**

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Grandaddy HMV Ritz 0161 236 4355 Jeff The Brotherhood Ruby Lounge 0161 834 1392

Rita Ora Sound Control 0161 236 0340

NORWICH Jacks Denial/Call It Wreckless

Bnckmakers 01603 441 118 The Polar Bear Club Waterfront

01603 632 717 NOTTINGHAM

Grizzly Bear/Perfume Genius Albert Hall 0115 941 9419

SHEFFIELD Low Duo/Abigail Washburn

Greystones 0114 266 5599 SOUTHAMPTON

The Alistair Goodwin Band Bent Brief 023 8032 2151

YORK

Beth McCarthy/Adam Howarth/ **Nathan Luke Basement** 01904 612 940



THURSDAY

August 30

BATH

Saves The Day Moles 01225 404445 BIRMINGHAM

The Charmers/The Domino Set/ The Regulars 02 Academy 3 0870 477 2000

Daniel Townes/Susan Murray/Keith

Farman Glee Club 0870 241 5093 Emma-Lee Shepherd/Hazle

Roadhouse 0121 624 2920 Jeffrey Lewis & The Junkyard

Flapper 0121 236 2421

The Outside Track Hare & Hounds 0870 264 3333

BRIGHTON

John Crampton Mesmerist 01273 328542

Liquid Fuse Volks Tavern 01273 682828

Black Lion 01273 711 884 Paul Kelly Komedia 01273 647 100

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Transformer/Alphabets Heaven/ Kaze Sim Green Door Store

07894 267 053 The Wishing Well Prince Albert 01273 730 499

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The Deep Dark Woods St

Bonaventure 0117 929 9008 Jeff The Brotherhood/Idles Thekla

08713100000 Of Jokers & Aces/The Ejections/ Haters Fleece 0117 945 0996

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Callum Baird/Church Of When The

Shit Hit The Fan/Fried Medicine Oran Mor 0141 552 9224 Deer Tick Stereo 0141 576 5018

Grandaddy 02 ABC 0870 903 3444 Hurray For The Riff Raff Pivo Pivo 01415648100

Willis Earl Beal School Of Art 0141 353 4530

GUILDFORD

Dave McPherson/Midgar/The Royal Cartel Boileroom 01483 539 539 HOYE

Simonne & The Dark Stars/Adam Blake/Funge Brunswick 01273 735254 HULL

Frank Fairfield New Adelphi 01482 348 216 LEEDS

Annette Krebs & David Dove/After

The Rain Fox & Newt 0113 243612. The Commander in Chief New Roscoe 0113 246 0778

James Morrison/Rainy Boy Sleep 02 Academy 0870 477 2000

Little Roots Chemic Tavern 0113 245 7977

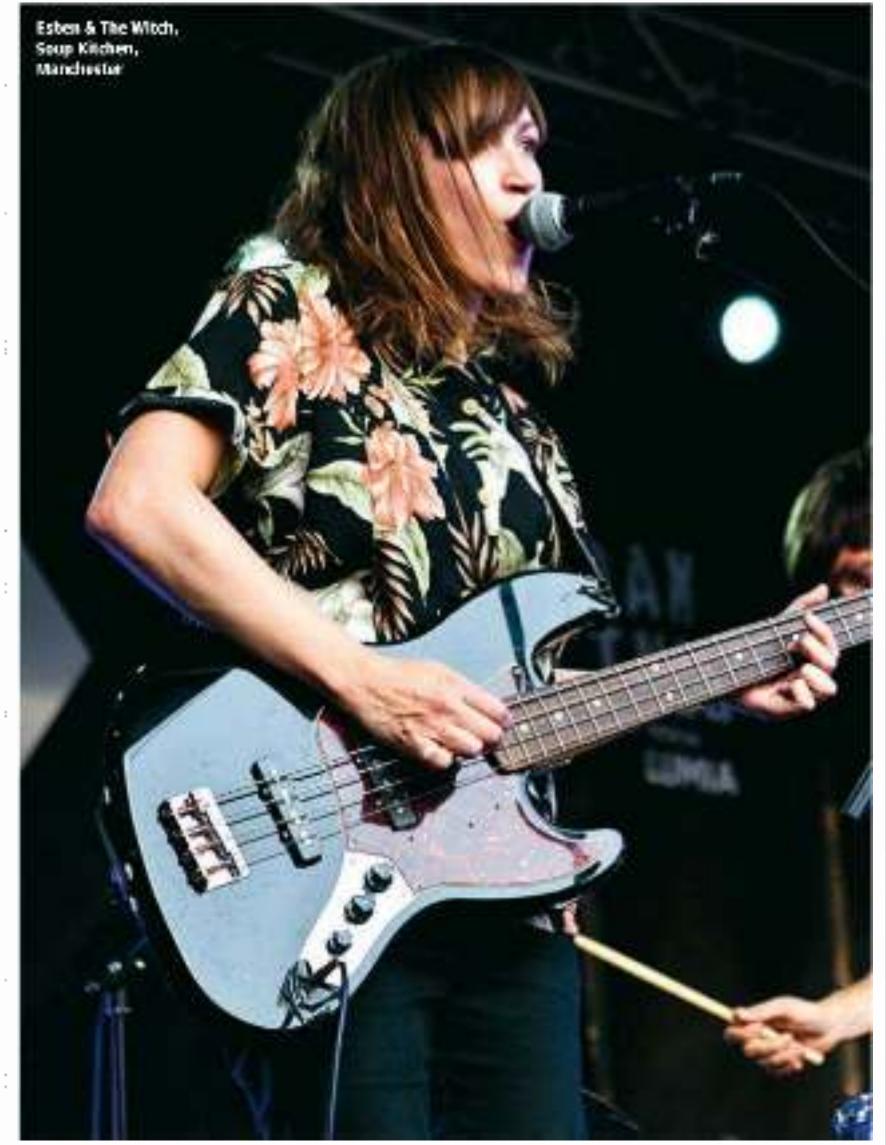
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Foy Vance Rough Trade East 0207 392 7788 Frida Mariama/Shanice Smith

Hideaway 020 7561 0779 Glass Diamond/Trim The Barber

Visions Video Bar 020 7275 7520 Justin Townes Earle Boogaloo 020 8340 2928

Kate Simko/Lookleft & Bearight/ The Caulfield Beats Rhythm Factory 020 7247 9386

Killington Fall/Death Rattle/ The Disraell Gears Fighting Cocks 020 8546 5174

Leif Vollebekk/Zachary Cale/ Jess Bryant Wilmington Arms 020 7837 1384

Lunar & The Deception The Lexington 020 7837 5387 Mathan Fake CAMP Basement

08712301094 Rebekah Delgado/Beau Bow Belles 12 Bar Club 020 7240 2622

Rita Ora/Twin B Scala 020 7833 2022 Simeon/Les Jupes/Claudia Smith Bull & Gate 020 7485 5358

The Suzuki Method/The Violet Bones/The Moonjets 100 Club 020 7636 0933

Swim Deep/JAWS Old Blue Last 020 7613 2478

They Say Jump/Scrimshire/Dom **Servini** Favela Chic 020 7613 4228 **Tiki Taane** XOYO 020 7729 5959 Violent Violet/Second Rate Angels/Killerstance Camden Rock

MANCHESTER Charile Barnes Kings Arms 0161 832 3605

0871 230 1094

Dive Bella Dive/Proxies/The Hype Theory Academy 3

0161 832 1111 Esben & The Witch/Leopard Of Honour/Moses Gold Soup Kitchen

0161 236 5100 Grimes/Becoming Real HMV Ritz 0161 236 4355

Kimbra Deaf Institute 0161 330 4019

O>L>A/James Kelly Fuel Cafe 0161 448 9702

The Polar Bear Club/Years/Cowards MoHo Live 0161 834 8180 **Sinnergod** Grand Central 0871 230 1094

Strangers/Nightmare Air/The Diamond Lights Kraak 07855 939 129 Vamos Vaquero/Early Mojo/Skive Retro Bar 0161 274 4892

MEWCASTLE

Head Of Light Entertainment/ Ginger Snap/The Stylish Pile Cluny 2 0191 230 4474

Mother Firefly/Dalaro/Nell McBride Brandling Villa 0191 284 0490

NOTTINGHAM

Dark Edge The Greyhound 0115 943 0250 PRESTON

Dave & Ansell Collins 53 Degrees 01772 893 000

READING

A Plea For Purging The Facebar 0118 956 8188 Karma To Burn/Desert Storm Sub89

0871 230 1094 SOUTHAMPTON

Tellison/Burn The Fleet/Our Time **Down Here Joiners** 023 8022 5612 WAKEFFELD

Dan Burnett/Steve Chapman Smith Henry Boons 01924 378126 **Untouchables** Snooty Fox 01924 374455

RIDAY

August 31

ABERDEEN

The Perc Snafu 01224 596 111 The Unwinding Hours/Olympic Swimmers/Foxhunting The Tunnels 01224 211121

BATH

Pugshole Festival Bob Hillary/ Yearners/Tankus The Henge/Dixon & The Rest

The Peggy Lee Songbook/ Catherine Sykes Chapel Arts Centre 0122 5404445

BELFAST

Andrew Weatherall Menagene 028 9023 5678

BINGLEY Bingley Music Live The Charlatans/

Martha Reeves & The Vandellas/ Kids In Glass Houses/Stooshe BIRMANGHAM

Dive Bella Dive/Proxies/The Hype **Theory** 02 Academy 3 0870 477 2000 Lightfire/Slave To The Beast/Grace The Skies Flapper 0121 236 2421 Those Loathsome Fishermen Sunflower Lounge 0121 632 6756 Troumaca/Victories At Sea Hare &

BOURNEMOUTH Disco & Co/Tosh Otha 60 Million Postcards 01202 292 697

Hounds 0870 264 3333

BRIGHTON Half Hour Hotel/Run Young Lovers Green Door Store 07894 267 053 Will And The People The Hope

01273 723 568 BRISTOL Absent Me/Actual Bird/The 5lik Report Croft (Main Room) 0117 987 4144

Euros Childs/The Wellgreen County Sports Club 0117 9273534 Evacuees/Autumn Music/Delgard/ **The Helm Fleece 0117 945 0996** Orchestra Of Spheres Start The Bus 0117 930 4370

Radio Nasties/The Calimocho Club Mother's Rum 0117 925 6969 Soul Trigger/Dirty Luck Mr Wolf's 0117 927 3221

BROMSONOYE The Missing Plece Artrix 01527 572730

County Laois

Electric Picnic Sigur Ros/The xx/ Alabama Shakes/The Vaccines/ Grizziy Bear/Metronomy/Azealla Banks/Willis Earl Beal 0870 2434455 CAMBRIDGE

Lodestar Festival The Go! Team/ Ryan Keen/Last Dinosaurs/The Rocket Dolls/The Violet Bones 01223 813 318

Tom Daipra/Tom Copson Portland Arms 01223 357268 CARDIFF

Bedford Falls/The Magnificent The Moon Club

De Fuego Gwdihw Cafe Bar 029 2039 7933 Frank Fairfield Dempseys

029 2025 2024 Perfume Genius The Globe

The Shoots Undertone 029 2022 8883 CARLISLE

Manatees/Minaret/Sails Brickyard

01228 512 220 CHELMSFORD

07738 983947

Heavy Loaded Dice/Rubber Soul Hooga 01245 356 811

CLEVELAND

Eliza Carthy/Saul Rose/By Toutatis Victoria 01287 624 637 COVENTRY

Indigo 6 Carey's Bar 07714 105091 CREWE The Sea The Box 01270 257 398

DERBY

JD & FDCs/The Loaded Dice Sitwell Tavern 01332 720909

DERRY

The Japanese Popstars/Paul Woolford Nerve Centre 028 7126 0562 EDINBURGH

Chris Silver/Kathryn Nicoli/Tom

Oakes Captain's Bar 01316 682312 The Detours Electric Circus 0131 226 4224

Eagulis Sneaky Pete's 0131 225 1757 Pig & Dan/Gareth Whitehead The Liquidroom 0131 225 2564 The View HMV Picture House

0844 847 1740 EXETER

Toblas Ben Jacob/The Sidewalk Anthem Phoenix 01392 667080

GATESHEAD **Hurray For The Riff Raff** The Central 0191 478 2543

GLASGOW Chris McManus Budda Bar 0141 332 2010

Erol Alkan/Daniel Avery Sub Club 0141 221 1177 The Farm King Tut's Wah Wah Hut

0141 221 5279 Graham Robertson City Hall 0141 339 8383

Marcel Dettmann The Arches 0141 565 1000 Miaoux Miaoux/Nevada Base

Kimbra Oran Mor 0141 552 9224

Nuala Kennedy CCA 0141 352 4900 GUILDFORD

The Neat/LUXE/West Coast Bride Boileroom 01483 539 539

Nice'n'Sleazy 0141 333 9637

HOLMFIRTH **Mostly Autumn Picturedrome**

01472 349222

HOVE Flash Bang Band/Buffos Wake

Brunswick 01273 735254 LEEDS

The Blades Hanover Arms 0113 263 0508 Tag Team Preacher/The Black Sea

The Library 0113 2440794

Vamp New Roscoe 0113 246 0778

0116 251 0080

LEKCESTER Blueswamp Southern Musician

Chris Heime Soundhouse 07830 425555

The See See/DayLight Frequencies The Exchange 0116 251 3434

LIYERPOOL Deer Tick/The Shivers/By The Sea Kazimier 0871 230 1094

The Downtown Dixieland Band The Caledonia 0151 709 5909 Organ Freeman/The Tin Foil Hat

Brigade/cTrix Zanzibar 0151 707 0633 Route 22/Native Waters/Open **Season** OZ Academy 2 0870 477 2000

LONDON Adeline/Joe & Will Ask Birthdays Binary/Strangers Club NME @ Koko

0870 4325527 Caspa/Trolley Snatcha/Subscape

Fabric 020 7336 8898 The Correspondents / DJ Marky/ **Hannah Holland** Jamm 020 7274 5537

Delicate Steve/Negative Pegasus Shacklewell Arms 020 7249 0810

DJ Yoda/Star One/1914's/Crewsdon Nest 020 7354 9993 Echoing The Sound/Old School

Reasons/The Move-Ons Camden Rock 0871 230 1094 **Email:** Cable Club 020 7403 7730

The Flatliners/Ok Pilot/Divided

CONTINUED OVERLEAF ▶

Heaven Fighting Cocks 020 8546 5174

FRIDAY

August 31

◆ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 59

Foxx On Fire/The Graveltones

Heroes Bar 020 7485 6040 Future Rock 100 Club 020 7636 0933 The Grinding Young/Katie Malco Power Lunches Arts Cafe The Inconvenience Dublin Castle 020 7485 1773 The Jar Family Barfly 0870 907 0999

Jeff The Brotherhood/Bo Ningen Garage 020 7607 1818 Killer Whale Live Bar Music Hall 020 7613 5951

The Kleeks/Ruth Bewsey/Sunday Walts Troubadour Club 020 7370 1434 Lucid/Hackman Rhythm Factory 020 7247 9386

Man Down Scala 020 7833 2022 Nations Afire/Built Upon The **Graves** Underworld 020 7482 1932 Nigel Lewis & The Zorchmen Boston Arms 020 7272 8153

The Pheromoans/Ela Orleans Bethnal Green Working Men's Club 020 7739 2772

Polly & The Billets Doux Garage (Upstairs) 0871 230 1094 **Rhyn** Enterprise 020 7485 2659 Robert Hallward/Robed in Desire Club Surya 020 7713 6262 Rooble/The May Birds Zigfrid Von

Underbelly 020 7613 1988 Science Made Us Robots/Pull **Peddler Roadtrip 020 7253 6787** Sissy & The Bilsters/The Diamond **Lights Old Blue Last 020 7613 2478** The Strangedays/Goodbye To **Romance** 5dver Bullet 020 7619 3639 Sweet Lights/Phildel Wilmington

Tusk/Leftside Wobble Book Club 020 7684 8618

Arms 020 7837 1384

Wiley/Boy Better Know Proud2 Yi Loom/Wojtek Godzisz/Inhiding Bull & Gate 020 7485 5358

50 Shades Of Playa/Joshy Connor/ **Replay Duo B**uffalo Bar 020 7359 6191 96 Tears/The Magnetic Mind/The

Razz The Victoria 0871 230 1094 MANCHESTER

Dave & Ansell Collins Band On The Wall 0161 832 6625

The Distractions/The June Brides Kings Arms 0161 832 3605 Four Short Of A Miracle/Dead

Retinas/Without Andrew Dry Bar 0161 236 5920 Minor Blues Club Academy

0161 832 1111

Murkage Roadhouse 0161 228 1789 The Yu Deaf Institute 0161 330 4019 MIDDLESBROUGH

Contagion Basement 01642 226111 MILTON KEYNES

Bruce Cockburn Stables 01908280800

North Dorset End Of The Road Festival Beach House/Dirty Three/Poor Moon/

Midlake/Veronica Falls/I Break Horses/Still Corners/Mountain Man 0871 230 1094

NEWCASTLE

Contraband Star Inn 0191 222 3111 The Crows The Station 0871 230 1094 Hellion Rising/Black River/40oz 02 Academy 2 0870 477 2000 Polly Paulusma Clury 0191 230 4474 Turbulence/Spectrasoul/Ten Below Digital 01912 619755



BATH

Band

BINGLEY

Delilah/Jake Bugg

BIRWINGHAM

0870 477 2000

0121 448 0797

0121 632 6756

BRIGHTON

BRISTOL

BOURNEWOUTH

Fleece 0117 945 0996

Cube 0117 907 4190

County Laois

CAMBRIDGE

01954 718881

01223 357268

CARDIFF

029 2087 2000

DER

ffor Bach 029 2023 2199

Lemon Drizlay Crew/The

(Main Room) 0117 987 4144

Start The Bus 0117 930 4370

Mohawke 0870 2434455

Beguiled Portland Arms

Katzenjammer/BIGkids/

Pugshole Festival Antonio Lulic/

Ringley Music Live Razorlight/

DJ Fresh/The Pigeon Detectives/

The Carpet Cutouts/The British

Kicks The End 0121 448 0797

City Lightz/The Scribers 02

Claustrophobique/New Killer

Shoes/We Writers 02 Academy 2

Reflections/Rise Of My Empire/

Left Unscared/Frantic Empire/

Eyes Of The Raven/Hostile

Taking Hayley The Baliroom

Yes Glantess Sunflower Lounge

Coke Can Jack Inferno 01202 589167

Half Hour Hotel/Gekho On The Rocks

Woods Blind Tiger 01273 681228

Erica/Last Nights Victory/The

Longest Johns/The Travis Waltons

Knifeworld/Anta/Actual Bird The

Parliamentalist/Eraserhead Croft

Suzuki/Kid Manners/Coca Eskimo

Electric Picnic The Cure/Crystal

Castles/Grimes/Wild Beasts/The

Horrors/SBTRKT/Rustie/Hudson

Alexander Tucker/Emptyset/

Peepholes/Maria & The Mirrors/

Yola Fatoush Wysing Arts Centre

Lodestar Festival Bob Geldof/

Luminites/Inouwee 01223 813 318

Millennium Centre 029 2063 6464

Bright Light Bright Light/Marcus

Euros Childs/The Wellgreen Clwb

Alio Darlin 5ilk Mill 01332255308

Fighting With Wire/More Than

Conquerors/Negative Pegasus

Grainne Holland/Figure Of 8/

Serenity Strings Culturiann Ur

Goat Leaf/Paper Beats Rock

Abel Archer/Bloody Mammals/

Bannermans 0131 556 3254

Without Maps Cavern Club

Allan Dunbar/Steven Wanless The

Masons Bar 028 7136 0177

Chanain 028 7126 4132

Street 0131 556 4272

EDINBURGH

EXETER

01392 495 370

Collins/Ruth Lorenzo Cooper's Field

Bboy Slammo/Dregz/Liara Williams

Roadhouse 0121 624 2920

Academy 3 0870 477 2000

Ryan Keen/Troy Ellis/Robbie Boyd

NEWCASTLE UNDER LYME

Geno Washington Full Moon 01782 255703

NORWICH

Jake Morrell/Firewire/Color

Brickmakers 01603 441 118 NOTTINGHAM

Justin Toymes Earle Rescue Rooms 0115 958 8484

8mm Orchestra/Moscow Youth Cult Bodega Social Club 08713 100000 OXFORD

Peerless Pirates/The Guggenheim Bullingdon Arms 01865 244516 Treetop Flyers/Count Drachma Modern Art 01865 722733

PLYMOUTH Mama Tokus/Andy Williamson The B Bar 01752 242021

POOLE

Pronghorn/Guns Of Navarone Mr Kyps

01202 748945

PORTRUSH Triggerman The Playhouse 028 7082 3917

SHEFFIELD

Coma Giris/Richie Syrett/Boss Caine Shakespeare 0114 234 9636

Covert Soundsystem Plug 0114 276 7093

SOUTHAMPTON

The Skints/Apologies I Have None/ **Crazy Arm** Joiners 023 8022 5612 Smokey Bastards Unit 02380 225612 The Wurzels Brook 023,8055,5366.

SOUTHSEA

Hold Me Down! Cellars 02392 826249 **STOKE ON TRENT**

Tussk Underground 01782 219944 **SWANSEA**

The Jukes/Junction 47 The Vault 01792 456 110

WAKEFIELD

Allo Darlin/This Many Boyfriends/ Imp The Hop 0871 230 1094 Old Corpse Road Snooty Fox 01924 374455

The Scandal Escobar 01924 332000 WOLVERHAMPTON

Alive & Kicking Robin 2 01902 497860 YORK

Aladdinsane The Duchess 01904 641 413

Black Lit City Fibbers 01904 651 250

Half Painted/Poor Dead Leonard The Front 01326 212168

GLASGOW

FALMOUTH

Nicky Siano/Andrew Pirie Admiral 0141 221 7705 The Unwinding Hours Stereo

0141 576 5018

Jersey Live Chase & Status/ Professor Green/Rizzle Kicks/ Mayerick Sabre/Devlin +44 (0) 1534 866555

The inconvenience/City Yelps Fox & Newt 0113 243612

Justin Townes Earle/Glassbody Brudenell Social Club 0113 243 5866 Rome Burns/Cold in Berlin/ Terminal Gods The Library 0113 2440794

The Sniffs/Year Of Birds/Girl Sweat Santiago 0113 244 4472

Tytan/Deathmace/Shades Of **Avaion** The Well 0113 2440474

Stevie Tee The Basement

LIVERPOOL

Milk:Studio 07846 421 860 Georgio Valentino/Roja/Raw Bones Mello Mello 0151 707 0898

0870 477 2000

White Widows/Davey Home/Catfish and the Bottlemen/Sensorites/ Kascarade Lomax 0151 236 4443 Young Rebel Set/Signal Aurora

0151 709 6901

Black Sun Empire/Inside Info/ Gridlok Cable Club 020 7403 7730 Opensight The Miller of Mansfield 0207 407 2690

Butterfiles On Strings/The Switch/Deffering Action Barfly

1234 Shoreditch Festival Buzzcocks/iceage/Gross Magic/Jeff

The Brotherhood/Charles Howl/ Dirty Beaches/Gabriel Bruce/ Savages 0871 230 1094 **Dirty DC** Half Moon 020 7274 2733

Enfant/All American Girl/ 020 7485 5358

English Dogs/Hotwired/Sickpig Grosvenor 0871 223 7992

Peel 020 8546 3516 The Fallows Monto Water Rats

0207 813 1079

Nambucca 020 7272 7366 Glass Diamond/Inca Gold/Tiny

Goober Patrol/7 Day Conspiracy/

High Wolf The Others 020 8802 3755 The Hummingbirds Proud Gallenes

SATURDAY

September 1

Iceage, 1234 Festival, London

JERSEY

LEEDS

LEICESTER

The Chizzits/Ferris/The Tennysons O2 Academy 3 0870 477 2000 Diesei Park West Musician 0116 251 0080

0116 254 5386

999 Soundhouse 07830 425555

Absense/Acrobat/Afternaut

The Maydays 02 Academy 2

Shipping Forecast

LONDON

Blue Gillespie/Chromosome Needle/

0870 907 0999

Electro Kill Machine Bull & Gate

Enochlan Theory/Quantum Sphere

The Fixed/Black Emerald/Shambala

Bones/Bobby Champs/Black Cherry Nest 020 7354 9993

Griswalds The Pipeline 020 7377 6860

020 7482 3867



March 11

Ivory Seas Power Lunches Arts Cafe I Am A Pilot/Worry Dolls/Hannah Curwood Hackney Attic 0871 902 5734 James Murphy/Hot Chip/The 2 Bears/Juan MacLean Corsica Studios 0207 703 4760

Karma To Burn/Desert Storm/ Diesel King Underworld 020 7482 1932

La La Vasquez/Weird Menace/Keel **Her Sebright Arms 020 7729 0937** Lorelel/Guttergodz/Brother Reld Garage (Upstairs) 0871 230 1094 Machine Rox/Ghost in The Static/Null White Electrowerkz

020 7837 6419 The Mannakings/Cynotia/Emmys **Unicorn Mother 020 7739 5949** Red House Glory/Scarlet Echo/ James Spankie Club Surya 020 7713 6262

Sex Beet/Sudakistan/Charles Howl Old Blue Last 020 7613 2478 Skibadee/Swifta/Grooverider Scala

020 7833 2022 Soothsayers Hideaway 020 7561 0779 Swingin' Utters Borderline

020 7734 5547 **Usher** Roundhouse 020 7482 7318 The Wondersmiths/New Carnival/ Emma Ballantine Zigfnd Von Underbelly 020 7613 1988

MACCLESFIELD lan Siegal Cabin 5150 01625 511001 MANCHESTER Colorama/TG Elas/O. Chapman The

Castle 0161 237 9485 Dubmood/Henry Homesweet/ DeadBeatBlast/Superpowerless Antwerp Mansion 0871 230 1094

Gold Jacks/Cardinal Saviour/The Room Roadhouse 0161 228 1789 Mr Scruff Band On The Wall 0161 832 6625

The Odd Squad/Summerlin/ Fearless Vampire Killers MoHo Live 0161 834 8180

0161 834 1392 Robert Parkinson Common Bar

Poor Moon Ruby Lounge

0161 832 9245 The Slammin' Boys/CJ Mackintosh 2022NQ

B Dolan Craufurd Arms 01908 313 864

Edwina Hayes Stables 01908 280800

Templar/The Mothpopes Club Academy 0161 832 1111 MILTON KEYNES

North Darset

NORWICH

End Of The Road Festival Grizzly Bear/Alabama Shakes/Anna Calvi/ Mark Lanegan Band/The Antiers 08712301094

The Burning Crows/Walkway/The Divide Waterfront 01603 632 717 Patrick Hawes Maddermarket Theatre 01603 620917

NOTTINGHAM Bondax/Kanna Kid Stealth 08713 100000

Earthtone 9/Destroyer BC/R5J Rescue Rooms 0115 958 8484 Siam Cartel/rumHoney Rock City

08713 100000 **PORTSMOUTH**

Rudy La Crioux Broad Oak 023 9222 7414

READING

Aubrey Dye-Welch/Ben Marwood Rising Sun Arts Centre 0118 986 6788 Frank Fairfield South Street Arts Centre 0118 960 6060

Magples & Thieves Rising Sun

0118 957 2974

SHEFFIELD Orchestre Ruffanti Lantem Theatre

0114 255 1776 SOUTHAMPTON

Above Them/River Jumpers/ Tireless Hoglands Park 023 8063 2601 Maths and The Moon/Wolfe/Silver **Spirits** Lennons 023 8057 0460 The Polar Bear Club/The Flatilners/

Into it, Over it Joiners 023 8022 5612

STOKE ON TREMT Kids in Glass Houses/Verses Sugarmill 01782 214 991

3's A Riot Underground 01782 219944 **SWANSEA Hurray For The Riff Raff Chattery**

01792 463980

SWINDON Uli Jon Roth The Furnace 01793 534238

WAKEFIELD

Angelo Palladino/Jon Palmer Band/ Fox Morth Coalition Henry Boons 01924 378126

Havana Rocks Snooty Fox 01924 374455

YORK

Jackie Oates The Duchess 01904 641 413 Mantra/Believe In F.A.T.E/The

Blueprints Fibbers 01904 651 250

GET IN THE GIG GUIDE!

DO YOU WANT TO GET YOUR BASH INCLUDED IN THE NME WEEKLY GIG GUIDE? GO TO NME.COM/GIGS AND SUBMIT YOUR LISTING FOR FREE. YOU MUST SUBMIT DETAILS AT LEAST THREE WEEKS BEFORE THE GIG DATE

SUNDAY

September 2

BATH

Gavin Lazarus Milsom Place 01225 789040

BINGLEY

Bingley Music Live Nero/White Lies/Maverick Sabre/Hard-Fl BIRMINGHAM

Let's Talk Daggers/Ursa Major/ **Highrise** Asylum 0121 233 1109 The Maydays/Fallen Edge/The Generals/The Real Davina 02 Academy 2 0870 477 2000 Red Method/Chasing Highs 02 Academy 3 0870 477 2000 Some May Run/Upon Descent/Left

Roadhouse 0121 624 2920 Tom Forbes/Zim Zim Adam & Eve

For Red/In Denial/Martyr De Mona

0121 693 1500 BRIGHTON

Barry Adamson Prince Albert 01273 730 499

BRISTOL

BUXTON

B Dolan Croft (Front Bar) 0117 987 4144

0117 945 0996 Mailclous Intent/Mad Hatter 2.0

Jeffrey Lewis & The Junkyard Fleece

Croft (Main Room) 0117 987 4144 Sadle Fleming Golden Guinea 0117 987 2034

Elkie Brooks Opera House 01298 72190

County Laple Electric Picnic The Killers/Elbow/ Hot Chip/Bombay Bicycle Club/ James Murphy (DJ Set)/Bat For Lashes/John Talabot 0870 2434455

CAMBRIDGE Lodestar Festival Michele Stodart/ Karima Francis/Jodie Marie/ Amanda Mair 01223 813 318

CARDIFF

Les Jupes 10 Feet Tall 02920 228883 **EDINBURGH**

Amusement Parks On Fire/ Nightmare Air Sneaky Pete's 0131 225 1757

Emma Pollock/RM Hubbert Electric Circus 0131 226 4224

GLASGOW

Polly Paulusma/Laura Healy Pivo Pivo 0141 564 8100

GUILDFORD

My Preserver Boileroom 01483 539 539 JERSEY

Jersey Live Moel Gallagher's High Flying Birds/Primal Scream/ Alex Clare/Jake Bugg/Friends

+44 (0) 1534 866555 LEED\$

Abacus/Poor Man's Plunder New Roscoe 0113 246 0778 Gjro/Kate Peters Septet/Yoruba

Seven Arts 0113 262 6777

Karma To Burn/Desert Storm The Well 0113 2440474

LEICESTER

Spirytus Soundhouse 07830 425555 LONDON

Andy Muscat/The Blue Carnation/ **Doll Rats** 100 Club 020 7636 0933 **The Blues Of Cain Bull & Gate** 020 7485 5358

Charlene Kaye Club Surya 020 7713 6262

Ed Sheeran/Charlie XCX Roundhouse 020 7482 7318

Gertrude/Nigel Burch Bar & Co. 020 7836 7594

Go Out With A Bang/My Favourite Everything Nambucca 020 7272 7366 Great White Underworld 020 7482 1932 The Masonics/The Muns/MFC

Chicken The Lexington 020 7837 5387 Metronomy (DJ Set) Big Chill Bar Nexilva/Vidina/Karybdis Garage (Upstairs) 0871 230 1094 Oren Ambarchi/John Tilbury Cafe

Oto 0871 230 1094 The Outdoor Types The Waiting Room 020 7241 5511

Pure Graft/WEGROWBEARDS/In-**Sane Black Heart 020 7428 9730** Pusca/Yvonne McDonnell New Cross

Inn 020 8692 1866 **Stray Half Moon 020 7274 2733** Torches/Jackie Greene Notting Hill

Arts Club 0207 460 4459 **North Dorset**

End Of The Road Festival Grandaddy/Patti Smith/Graham Coxon/Willis Earl Beal/First Ald Kit/Cold 5pecks 0871 230 1094 NEWCASTLE

Sleep Party People/Ylp Deceiver Clurry 0191 230 4474

NEW BRIGHTON

Joe Longthorne Floral Pavilion Theatre 015I 639 4360

NOTTINGHAM

Runaway Husbands/Sleaford Mods/Death To The Traitors Bodega Social Club 08713 100000

Taking Hayley/Deny The Lie/ Grey Goes Down Rescue Rooms 0115 958 8484

SHEFFHEE

JonPaul Palombo Botanical Gardens 0114 268 6001

SOUTHAMPTON Calvinball/The Cut Ups/Fighting

Fiction/Gnarwolves/Muncie Girls/Young Attenborough Unit 02380 225612

Crocus/Hospitals/The Veils/The Long Haul King Alfred 023 8023 1183 WOLVERHAMPTON

The Burning Crows Slade Room 0870 320 7000

Mostly Autumn Robin 2 01902 497860



MONDAY

September 3



ABERDEEN

Hold Your Horse is/Talking Sideways The Tunnels 01224 211121 BIRMINGHAM

Escaping Vendetta/Bury The Ladybird/The Grade The End 0121 448 0797

BRIGHTON

Euros Childs Sticky Mike's Frog Bar 01273 749 465

BRISTOL

Odessa/Napolean/Dead Harts Croft (Main Room) 0117 987 4144 Shadow of the Sun/Ruins Will Rise/The Faint And Fallen Fleece 0117 945 0996

CARDIN Banner Pilot The Moon Club EDINBURGH

Amanda Mair Sneaky Pete's 0131 225 1757 Rue Royale/Kat Healy Third Door

GUILDFORD

0131 225 6313

Four Short Of A Miracle Boileroom 01483 539 539

LEEDS

Sleep Party People Brudenell Social Club 0113 243 5866

LONDON

Amusement Parks On Fire/ **Nightmare Air Bull & Gate**

020 7485 5358 Bugbear/O-ARC Dublin Castle 020 7485 1773

The Burning Crows/Dead Pin **Ups/Gypsy Pistoleros** Borderline 020 7734 5547

Darren Hayman Rough Trade East 0207 392 7788

Kruk/Chris Segan/Paul Mcquaid Half Moon 020 7274 2733

Olly Murs/The Milk Roundhouse 020 7482 7318

Poor Moon The Lexington 020 7837 5387

Red Baraat Rich Mix 020 7613 7498 Townhouses/Wintercoats Shacklewell Arms 020 7249 0810 **Vuvuvultures/Bow Tie Cameras** New Cross Inn 020 8692 1866 Woods/The Proper Ornaments

Cargo 0207 749 7840 MIDDLESBROUGH Damon Albam/Amadou & Mariam/

Charli XCX/Fatoumata Diawara/ Nneka/Rokia Traore/Nick Zinner (Yeah Yeah Yeahs)/Spoek Mathambo Town Hall 01642 242561 Mondays Company/The Smiles The Keys 01642 782 534

NEWCASTLE

Karma To Burn/Desert Storm Trillians 0191 232 1619 Taking Hayley O2 Academy 2 0870 477 2000

NORWICH Death By Stereo/The Smoking

Hearts/Swarmed Waterfront 01603 632 717 Jeffrey Lewis & The Junkyard/ Misty's Big Adventure Arts Centre

01603 660 352 OXFORD

Bloody Mammals/Without Maps/ **Masiro** Wheatsheaf 01865 721 156

The Poor Boys Jericho Tavern 01865 311 775

STOCKTON Bruce Cockburn Arc

01642 666600

YORK Emma Pollock Basement

01904 612 940

TUESDAY

September 4

BIRMINGHAM

Shut Up And Play The Hits (LCD Soundsystem Film) Electric Cinema. 0121 643 7277

BOURNUMOUTH

Noel Gallagher's High Flying Birds/ **Graham Coxon** International Centre 0870 111 3000

BRADFORD

Shut Up And Play The Hits (LCD) Soundsystem Film) National Media Museum 0870 701 0200

BRIGHTON

Shut Up And Play The Hits (LCD) Soundsystem Film) Duke Of York 01273 818549

BRISTOL

Allo Darlin Fleece 0117 945 0996 Made To Waste Croft (Front Bar) 0117 987 4144

Shut Up And Play The Hits (LCD Soundsystem Film) Watershed Media Centre 0117 927 6444

CAMBRIDGE

Jeffrey Lewis & The Junkyard Junction 01223 511511

CARDIFF

Shut Up And Play The Hits (LCD) Soundsystem Film) Chapter Arts Centre 029 2031 1050

COLCHESTER

Shut Up And Play The Hits (LCD) Soundsystem Film) Firstsite 01206 577067

DERBY

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0141 331 2722 Damon Albarn/Fatournata Diawara/Amadou & Marlam/Charlle

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The Sweetback Sisters Greystones



THE KILLERS AND KILLER COCKTAILS

Anthony Thornton went to LA to review a Morrissey gig. He ended up mixing Flatliners for **The Killers** and upsetting Hollywood royalty

> t started well enough. I'd always dreamt of reviewing Morrissey for NME and finally I was going to do it. In LA! In a fabulous art deco theatre! What I didn't realise is that by the end of the night I'd party with what would become one of the world's biggest bands, teach one of the best mixologists in the world how to make a cocktail and see an A-list actress grievously offended.

> Morrissey played the Wiltern Theatre. There were stately waitresses weaving through the audience to deliver drinks to me right at the front. I'd been given this charmed position as I'd been championing a new band called The Killers that Morrissey had decided to anotht. I'd raved about this new band ever since I saw them playing Club Motherfucker in north London to an audience of five.

I should have known it was going to be a surreal evening when, during Morrissey's set, one fan dodged security to get onstage and, in a pure Alan Partridge moment, lifted his shirt to reveal a tattoo of Morrissey's head covering his entire stomach and chest. That Morrissey merely raised an eyebrow rather than fleeing screaming from the venue is as much evidence of his cool genius as anything off 'The Queen Is Dead'.

Show over, we queued to get into the aftershow. Chloë Sevigny was behind us in the queue. We

got in, eventually, imagining the scene would definitely be a kind of end-of-century Valhalla of excess with exotic head-spinning beverages, or at least a beer or two. It was, as it turned out, a grubby white room.

Worse, the drinks selection was entirely comprised of fruit and herbal infusions: bloody tea. It was time to split - and so, with The Killers, we headed over to the Chateau

Marmont, the famous celebrity hangout where movie stars socialised. It's most famous, of course, as the place where John Belushi overdosed and died. We were given a prime seat in the garden, and minutes later Chloë Sevigny was parked next to us.

The Killers were hilamous; Ronnie in particular had a good line in stories. Somewhere along the line we lost Brandon, but the rest of them were in the mood for a great time. By now we were all pretty drunk and starting to feel that one of the greatest cocktail bars in the world wasn't quite up to the job. I had recently discovered a new cocktail

called a Flathner that I had become obsessed with. It consisted of tequila, sambuca and a thin red line of tabasco between (hence the name). It was rocket fuel, and The Killers - Ronnie in



particular - were keen to try it.

I didn't mention to them that one of the UK's leading environmental correspondents had recently warned me off this toxic brew.

With a flourish I ordered a Flatliner for me and my friends. The cocktail waiter informed me that he didn't know what a Flathner was

"You've got to show them," said Ronnie. So, inebriated and goaded by The Killers, I did the stupidest thing: I offered to teach one of the world's greatest mixologists how to make

> a lethal, blow your head-off Killer cocktail despite this being on a par with me offering Jimi Hendrix guitar lessons or giving

Muse a tutorial in being a bit bombastic.

LA's best graciously looked on as I clumsily put this cocktail together before disappearing and reappearing moments later with one for all of us And then again, and again. The mixologist thanked me for the recipe in a way that even in my alcoholically compromised state I could tell didn't actually mean thank you.

Pretty soon we were out of control; and something bad happened - one of our party (who wasn't one of The Killers) decided to talk very loudly about talentless actresses whose first names happen to be Chłoć. Sevigny eventually decided that this oafish behaviour wasn't for her and left grumpily.

The following morning I had a call from the record label, asking what I'd done to The Killers. It had been impossible to rouse them from their beds and only a gargantuan intervention had prevented them from missing the plane to their next show. I, meanwhile, sat by the swimming pool and felt like crying





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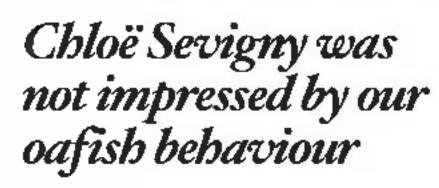


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TAXING THE FINEST MINDS IN ROCK'N'ROLL FOR SIX DECADES

Compiled by Trevor Hungerford



A BAG OF NME SWAG



CLUES ACROSS

1 They've scarpered because of all these things that they've done or maybe for treasons unknown (8) 5 It's what The xx sound like when singing (6) 9 Ed Sheeran getting the hump a little on the road (5-4)

11+19D Yeah, Bono, LP has turned out just like Radiohead's (5-5)

12 "My folks were always putting him down / They said he came from the wrong side of town", 1965 (6 2 3-4)

13 Punk legend who died in New York in 1979 (3-7) 15 Getting into rude vocals with an American band (4)

16 Where The Crystal Fighters find it most comfy (2-4)

17 Originally 'Yes Men' trip-hoppers, but now showing their 'Independence' (7)

22 "And now the marriage___ is very sacred", from Wibert Harrison's 'Let's Stick Together' (3)
23 The Drums' music to be sorted out pronto, mate! (10)

25 Singer-songwriter formerly in group Whiskeytown (4-5)

26 A song by Billy Corgan's band Zwan, or part of any song by any other artist (5)

27+3D The leader of Wah! is the type we lie about (4-5)

28 It's a one-in-twelve chance that Teenage Fanclub were singing about Leo (4-4)

CLUES DOWN

1 Limp Bizkit album - you might all come up with different answers for this (7-3-4)

2 Laura Marling was in this group before going solo (4-3 3 5)

3 (See 27 across)

4 As Roy Orbison correctly states, I have in my possession his hit record (3-3-2)

6 "I remember the back streets of ______, two children begging in rags" from Peter Sarstedt's "Where Do You Go To My Lovely" (6)

7 Their singles include 'World At Your Feet' and 'Hooligan' (7)

8 How's Don? OK? That's terrible! Yuck (5-4)
10 To pluck around and make just random choice of

an Elvis Presley album (3-4)

14 Pam nicely does new version of Coldplay number
(2-2-5)

18 Californian punk rap band have got into popmusic (3)

19 (See 11 across)

20 A strong feeling that this was by Destiny's Child (7) 21 "Oh, my life is changing every day, in every possible way / And, oh my____, it's never quite as it seems", 1992 (6)

24 Death In Vegas performance in the Palais, Hammersmith (5)

26 Band that are just a little bit like Glasvegas (3)

Normal NME terms and conditions apply, available at NME.COM/terms. Simply cut out the crossword and send it, along with your name, address and email, marking the envelope with the issue date, before Tuesday, September 4, 2012, to: Crossword, NME, 9th Floor, Blue Fin Building, 110 Southwark Street, London SE1 OSU.

First correct one out of the hat wins a bag of CDs, T-shirts and books!

JULY 28 ANSWERS

ACROSS

1 Go Right Ahead, 8+34A It's A Shame About Ray, 10 I Still Believe, 12 Molko, 13 Talk, 14 Cowgirl, 16+17A Road To Nowhere, 20 Ladytron, 21 Maps, 25 Kid, 27+28A Indian Rope, 30 Neurotica, 33 Gun

DOWN

1+3D Glitters Like Gold, 2+18D Rattle And Hum, 4 Tobacco Road, 5 Holy Wood, 6 D.I.V.O.R.C.E., 7 Ramone, 9+15A Tell Me, 11 EMI, 15 Meds, 19 Attitude, 22 Prodigy, 23 Malibu, 24 Seven, 26 Donna, 29 Marr, 31 Orb, 32 Us

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COLLECTORS'

COCTEAU TWINS

Here are the music gems that no Cocteau Twins fan should be without



PEPPERMINT PIG (III)



The band's second EP was a significant moment in their history, despite

not being one of their most loved recordings. The three tracks were the last to feature original bass player Will Heggie, who departed shortly after its release to be replaced by Simon Raymonde, who would go on to play with the band until their eventual split in 1997.

Need To Know: Alan Rankine from The Associates produced the EP - the first and last time the group got outside help in this respect.

THIS MORTAL COIL - SIXTEEN DAYS/ GATHERING DUST

(1983)



This EP, by the 4AD 'supergroup', was the first place Elizabeth

Fraser and Robin Guthrie's version of Tim Buckley's 'Song To The Siren' appeared.

Originally intended to be the B-side of the EP, 4AD supremo Ivo Watts-Russell was so impressed he promoted it to the A-side of the seven-inch.

Need To Know: 'Song To The Siren' stayed on the UK's indie singles chart for nearly two years.

THE MOON AND THE

MELODIES (DEC



The American avant-garde composer Harold Budd joined the band

for this one-off collaboration.
Known as a pioneer of ambient music in the '70s alongside
Brian Eno, the group and their new member's styles combined well, making this one of the band's most popular records in the eyes of their hardcore fanbase.

Weed To Know: Two of the song titles - 'Bloody And Blunt' and 'Onze Out And Away, Onehow' - are lifted from lyrics to previous Cocteau Twins songs.

TWINLIGHTS/ OTHERNESS (1997)



Two EPs released in tandem as teasers for the group's then

forthcoming 'Milk & Kisses' LP, which would eventually prove to be their final album. The EPs differ vastly in style, with 'Twinlights' being a sparse, stripped-down affair and 'Otherness' being the Cocteaus' only ever venture into the world of remix records.

Need To Know: The lyrics here are rumoured to be about Jeff Buckley, who Fraser was romantically involved with around the same time.

FARMAI

YOU GET IN TOUCH, WE RESPOND, THINGS GET OUT OF HAND

Edited by Ailbhe Malone







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ANEWDRUG HORROR?

From: Clayton To: NME

I'm seriously excited about the news of Pond and The Horrors getting together to make sweet music (NME, August 25). But one thing about your article has left me slightly confused about the whole thing. Namely, it's about the word "brozleme". Or as Josh from The Horrors put it: "After a week living on nothing but brozlemes and rum punch, abiding by their rules of two-take recording and preventing Cam [Avery, Pond drummer] from playing AC/DC at every given opportunity, we had a great record." What the hell, NME, is a "brozleme"?! I've Googled it, to no avail. I've asked friends and parents, to no avail. I'm now convinced that it's some mad new drug these guys are getting spangled on. Please teil me I'm wrong.

NME's response...

Don't fret, mate. We could lie to you here, and pretend that "brozleme" is a new slang tenn for bath salts, or that it's a triple-distilled Australian vodka made from potatoes. Or that, in fact, it's an acronym, standing for "Brothers Running Outside, Zelda

Level Eleven, Matching Earrings" - an in-joke between The Horrors and Pond that you totes wouldn't get. But we won't, because frankly, we were intrigued too. We asked around, but got nothing. So we decided to go straight to the source with this one

and ask actual Josh from The Horrors WTF he was on about. He writes: "Sorry, a lot of slang was developed in that session. A brozieme is a play on gozieme, that tasty breakfast pancake that's often filled with cheese and spinach. The best one is in Dalston in the

place two doors right of Red Art Café, I forget what it's called though [we think he means Evin Café on Kingsland High Street]. If I happen to bump into you one morning, I'll get you one!" There you are mystery solved and a breakfast tip. Sorted - AM

VIEW THEFU I COLLECTION

NMELETTERS

KILLING TIME

From: Ingrid To: NME

Dear NME, while I can understand the criticisms many people have of hugely successful bands (as I'm usually the one dishing them out), I really enjoyed your article on The Killers' comeback last week. As an 18-year-old indie fan, 'Hot Fuss' was my first album and were it not for the 'tandfill indie' scene of the late '00s that many people (myself included) now scorn I might never have developed an interest in music to the extent that I have. And although I now consider myself much older and wiser than the naive 13-year-old who attended her first run of festivals (2009) with 'We <3 Brandon' in black eveliner on one cheek, however much my tastes have changed the band will always hold a

special place in my heart. Your article told it like it is without trying to be clever or cynical, and despite the fact they've been away far too long I thought their comeback single 'Runaways' sounded amazing the second I heard

it. So I'll leave you with a memory of my first indie club night experience: after half an hour of six people shuffling their feet awkwardly to The Horrors while the rest of the punters milied around the bar trying their best to look cool, the DJ finally stuck on 'Human' and despite past complaints that it's overplayed the whole room was immediately pogoing like there was no tomorrow (Pogoing to a song as slow as 'Human'? Really? Good work! - Indie Club Ed). So thank you NME for delivering the rightful praise

to an undeniably great band.

From: NME To: Ingrid We totally agree, ingrid. From the sounds of that club night, you're definitely more dancer than human (sorry...). After a run of side-projects that each sounded like a quarter of a Killers record, it's good to have the old gang back together - and to know that their fans are there walting for them - AM

SUGAR SPUN SISTER

From: Elizabeth To: NME

I feel as though I need to have a small rant to someone about an amazing event I witnessed last weekend, so here goes. I feel incredibly privileged to have seen The Stone Roses' set at V Festival in my hometown of Chelmsford, and the only words I can find to describe the way I feel is that it was a complete and utter triumph. The music was, as expected, fantastic, right from Mani's powerful bass in 'I Wanna Be Adored', the hushed singalong of 'Shoot You Down' and a seismic finale of 'I Am The Resurrection'. which left me and many others slightly emotional. And the atmosphere at that set was like none other Lexperienced at V. I was worried that, as a 16-yearold 'new fan', I might be told by some 40-year-old who was there the first time round that I didn't deserve to be there. However, from Tony - who looked like lan Brown, and handed round spliffs and repeatedly offered to take a photo of me and my friend Maisie to "capture our spirit" during the gig - to the young guys I met when I was lost who complimented my Reni hat, to the drunken middle-aged man who put his arm round me with a slightly intoxicated 'Alright, darlin'?' while we sang along to '(Song For My) Sugar Spun Sister', everyone

there, young and old, was so equally ecstatic to see their heroes resurrected that everyone was united in effervescent guitars, bouncing drum beats and bucket-hat loads of Mancunian swagger. With regards to a new album, personally, I don't think the Roses need to, as the gigs of the past few months have proved that they're not some '80s one-hit wonders whose talent had fizzled out by album two, and as such they have restored their legacy which was left in tatters by their split in 1996. One part of me thinks this would be a good place to end the story before something goes wrong, but then again, if the reported new material is as good as the Roses at their peak, then I'll be the first one in the queue to buy it. OK, rant over. As you were.

From: NME To: Elizabeth

Firstly, Elizabeth, if ever an older gentleman offers to "capture your spirit" again, you walk straight off. Don't entertain the idea even for a moment, because the end result will inevitably involve incense, smelly armpits, and a knackered old hippy van, Secondly, while the magic of a reunion gig gone right can allow goodwill to linger, don't you think it's time for the group to pony up some new tracks? Show



STALKER From: Chloe Jordan To: NME

"We managed to meet Miles Kane after his gig in Warrington, he was really lovely and chatty. What's more, we managed to meet his dad as well, who was also really nice! The gig itself was amazing - Miles and Eugene McGuinness were both brilliant!"

us what you can really do, Ian & co - AM

NOT ENJOYING THE SILENCE

From: Tim To: NME

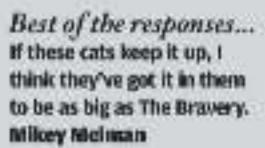
I went to see Blur at Hyde Park in 2009 and it was one of the greatest shows I have seen in my life, so I was very excited about going to see them at the same venue for the Olympic closing ceremony. After getting up early to pay my £61 for a ticket I was buzzing for Sunday. What a crushing disappointment the entire day was. From the start it took us 45 mins to queue to get in the venue due to

Web Slinging

The highlight of this week's NME.COM action

SPECTOR: THE ALBUM VERDICT

It was quite possibly the most eagerly awaited east London Indie release since Fred MacPherson's last record came out (ah, Ox.Eagle.Lion.Man, how we miss you), and it looks like it's paid off, Yep, the speccy goofball whose father was Gordon Brown's top financial advisor Nicholas Macpherson (true fact!) has finally made it into music's big leagues after nigh on a decade of trying: Spector's debut. album 'Enjoy It While It Lasts' steamed straight into the Number 12 position, and, well, this time next year they might have even cracked the Top 10. NME's Lisa Wright praised the album in her 8/10 review, hailing it as sounding like a "lost gem" from indie's Strokes/Libs/Killers glory years. But what did the honest folk of the internet have to say about it? Er, quite a lot, as is happened...



Absolutely quality album. 'Lay Low' and 'No Adventure' are brilliant! Alan Wallbank

Get his old band's album. Les Incompétents - End Of An Error', Now that was an album. Mial Bremner

Dalston twat, Anachronistic white-boy bollocks. Radical Light

The album is better than I thought it was gunna be. It's a pop album for sure, and unashamedly so. It's all tongue-in-cheek enough to not take it too seriously, and decent enough to make it credible. The people slagging it off won't have bought it/

listened to it. I have and I was pleasantly surprised. 8/10 is weirdly spot-on for the NME. Dan Banham

I refuse to believe it could possibly be an 8/10 album. Callum Mackenzie



airport security (at a Britpop gig, I ask you!), then once we were in, it was clear that the venue had oversold tickets - it was rammed at 2pm, After a half-hour queue for a beer at £5 a pint and ignoring the £25 official T-shirts which are now £20 on the website, we made our way to the front for the main men to arrive. After mediocre sound for the support acts, the Blur mix was just awful, people chatting during songs, chants of "turn it up" fell on deaf ears and it was one of the most pointless events ever. I cannot review the show as I felt I wasn't watching a music gig. I for one hope this wasn't their last show as the final memory of them for me will be as a whimper not the

From: NME To: Tim You're not the first to complain about the sound at Hyde Park, Tim. There have

triumph I longed for.

been various explanations about the mix - including rules about performing in a residential area - but the question remains, is a space like Hyde Park suitable for live music? Punters at Wireless, Bruce Springsteen and Madonna this summer found themselves asking the same thing. Maybe it's time for promoters to rethink, and for artists to do the same - AM

YOU GOTTA WONDER (WALL)

From: Juliette

To: NME Having already witnessed such greatness at the Olympic closing ceremony in the form of John Lennon's and Freddie Mercury's long-awaited comeback performances, George Michael's sunglasses and Ray Davies' interesting interpretation of 'Waterloo Sunset', I didn't think the night could get much better. And then walked on

Liam Gallagher. Or as he shall now be known: Liam Gallagher, the absolute genius. Do I believe that Liam 'accidentally' got the order wrong to the lyrics of 'Wonderwall', a song he has been singing for over 18 years? No. Do I believe it is the ultimate dig and revenge at his beloved older brother, Noel? Definitely maybe. What Liam did was step up the sibling rivalry to new heights, showing that he is the King Gallagher to a global audience. Unless getting the words wrong was just a pure accident, and he isn't quite a genius, after all.

From: NME To: Juliette

Nice theory, Juliette. It's hard to imagine that the pressure of the event caused Liam to muddle up the lyrics - surely the Olympic closing ceremony is like a cleaner Glastonbury, right? And while it would seem malicious to have a dig at his brother on a global stage, it's



STALKER From Rachael Barker To: NME

"I bumped into Rhys Webb and Joshua Hayward from The Horrors outside the Blur gig at Hyde Park the other week. They were running late but happily obliged when I asked for a photo. Rhys told me I had a 'nice outfit' too!"

not beyond that pair. And by that logic, Boris Johnson dangling from a zip wire in Victoria Park was a cunning ploy to detract attention from the accusations of not vetting Olympic security teams properly. It's all coming together now! - AM

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DOES ROCKINIROLL KILL BRAINCELLS?

TESTING MUSICIANS' MEMORIES AFTER A LIFETIME OF ABUSE

This Week

QUESTION 1

When do you sing: "Kindly weed and ganja marijuana lung's breath/Rise up and walk rise up and clap"? "Who sings that?"

Wrong. You do, on 'Dr Lee, PhD' from Beastie Boys' 'Hello Nasty'. How was it working with them?

"Great fun. I'm glad we came away with happiness."

QUESTION 2

With whom did you collaborate on your 2010 vinyl-only dubstep track, 'Iron Devil'? "The collaboration with who?"

Wrong. Dubblestandart and Subatomic Sound System

"I didn't have much connection with Sound System. Somebody maybe mixed me up. I used to be interested in those things. Now I'm about righteousness and Godliness."

QUESTION 3

Name three of the subjects you talk about in the series of Guinness adverts you made in 2008.

"Hard work is like life itself. Hard work is the energy of life, and magic."

Wrong. They were: travel, aliens, medicine, cows, Dublin, cars, meditation, seafood, world peace, Guinness



QUESTION 4

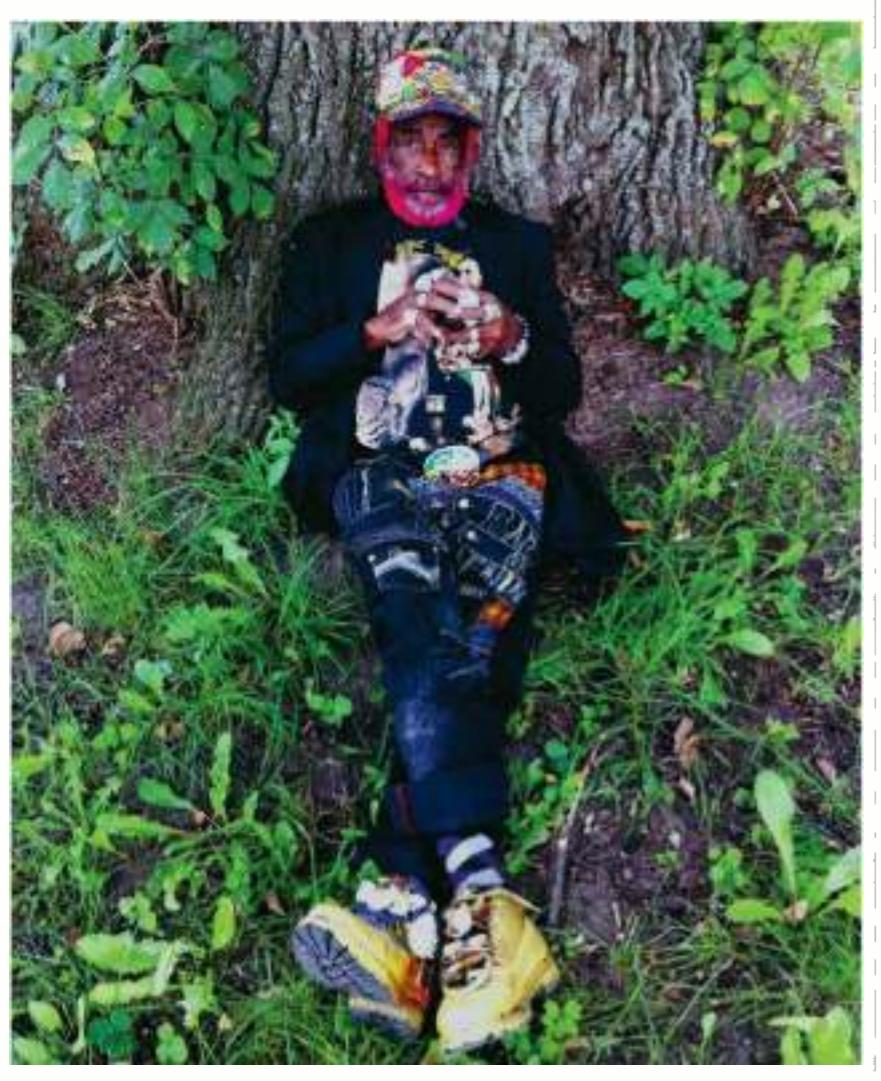
How did you like to bless the tapes at your Black Ark Studio in Jamaica to enhance their spiritual properties?

"I don't want to talk about the Black Ark Studio. That stuff isn't in my mind any more. You need to load on energy, Not suffering energy and not ragamuffin energy." Wrong. Apparently you sprayed urine, blood and whiskey over them

QUESTION 5

Porn star Sasha Grey (right) is credited as a guest on your 2008 album 'Repentance'. Can you name any of her films?

LEE 'SCRATCH' PERRY



"Who is that?"

Wrong. You could have had Fuck Slaves, Babysitters, or Anal Cavity Search 6. Ahem

QUESTION 6

What colour is your beard in the video for 'Golden Clouds' from your new album 'The Orbserver In The Star House' (right), with The Orb? "My beard? Red."

Correct. What was

it like working with The Orb? "No problem, they seem OK, peaceful, righteous."

QUESTION 7 Which of your songs did Panda Bear of Animal Collective sample in his 2007 song, 'Carrots'?

> "Who?" Wrong. Enter The Dragon

QUESTION 8

Which song by The Upsetters (below) was used in an advert reminding people to pay their tax in the UK?

"I don't know. I don't want to talk about t'past. I'd rather talk about the present." Wrong. 'Return Of Django'



QUESTION 9

How out of date is your official website, lee-perry.com?

"One of my stepsons does the website." Wrong. At least two and a half years. The last entry was made in April 2010

QUESTION 10

Apparently you're to receive the Order of Distinction, Jamaica's sixth highest honour. What is the fifth highest honour? "They haven't come to me with this shit. They might give it to Shaggy, I don't know." Wrong. The Order of Jamaica. Anything else you'd like to talk about?

"We can talk about making the world a better place, what to do for the people who are not too sinful, and how to burn the people who don't want to stop sin." How long will you keep making music?

"When people like the music, we'll start making the arks. People have the choice of believing in God, for the muffin and the puffin and the tuffin. If they love me for the music and the arks then I'll make music for a very long time."

Arks, eh? Is there anybody British you'd like to collaborate with?

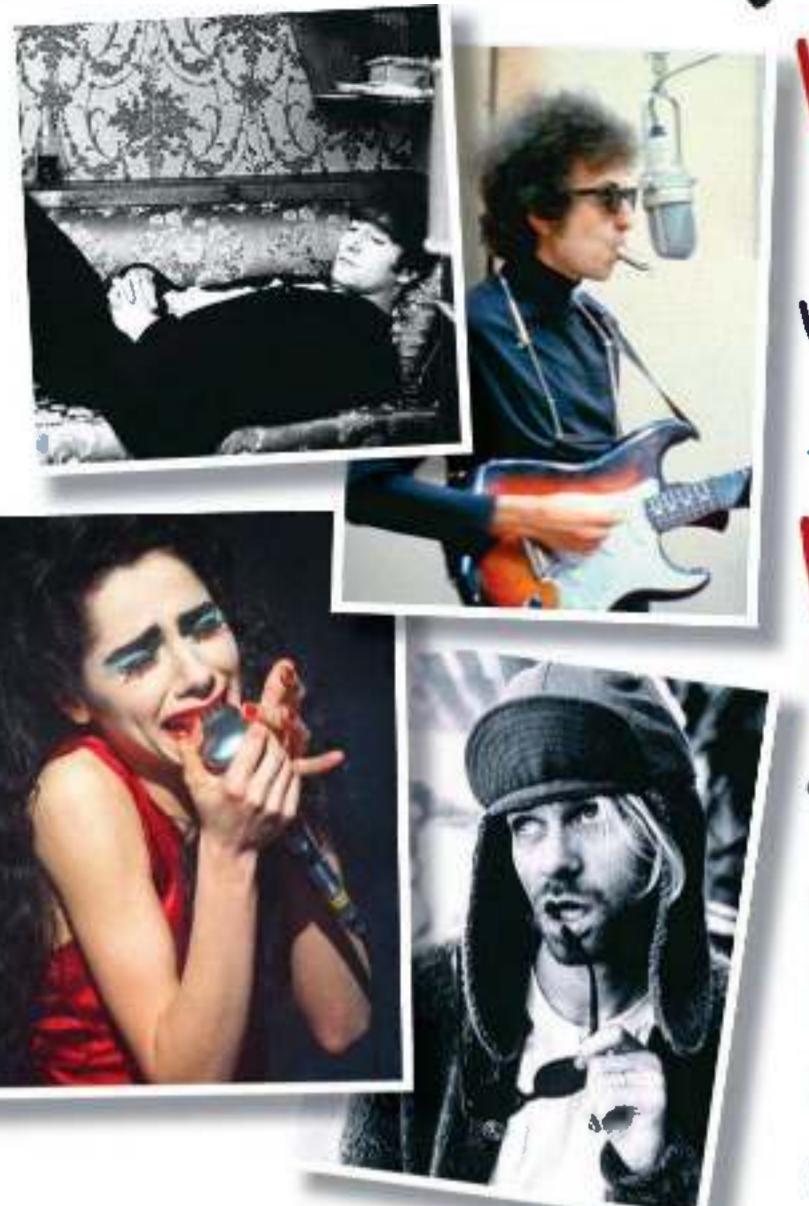
"People who don't eat meat, drink alcohol, or smoke cigarettes. People who don't tell lies. They are people I'd like to work with."



"Good luck to the people who are vegetarians."

Coming Next Week

The Unics Issue



Who's the greatest unicist of all time?

Will it be Lennon, Dylan, Kurt, Polly Jean?

Plus...

What's the greatest lymic ever:

The killers, Marics, Brian Wilson, The Maccabees, Mark Ronson, Warpaint, Kasabian and loads more argue over the best ever lines

AND UP NEXT... IT'S THE REAL SLIM MAYBE!

NME goes tribute act crazy at Tribfest

"SPIKE JONZE WAS HITTING ME WITH HIS PHONE"

James Murphy on his weirdest LCD moments

THE XX

We deliver the definitive verdict on their eagerly awaited second album, 'Coexist'

