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MOTION & EMOTION



PEUGEOT

NME



Hello...

A COUPLE OF YEARS AGO I was asked by documentary maker Morgan Spurlock (the guy behind *Super Size Me*) to appear in his upcoming film about One Direction. They'd just been voted Worst Band at our annual awards and NME's Dan Stubbs had been sent some brilliant tweets from upset Directioners along the lines of: "I AM GOING TO F**KING SHOOT YOU IN THE HEAD WITH A BAZUKA OR HOWEVER YOU SPELL IT... THEN I'M GOING TO DROWN YOU... I WILL TAKE A CRAP ON YOUR FAT ASS... YOUR PARENTS WILL BE HAPPY BECAUSE THEY ALWAYS HATED YOU". Spurlock wanted some dirt. How could I say no?

The interview lasted an hour. He asked me about the crazy fandom, the tight control of the band's image and a bit about why I thought they were so successful. If you've ever seen the film, you'll know it didn't really turn out to be the behind-the-curtain exposé most people (me included) assumed it would be when Spurlock announced it. Whether Simon Cowell's presence as executive producer had anything to do with that, we can only speculate...

Which is just a big preamble to everything getting a lot more interesting since Zayn Malik flew the coop and launched his solo career. He's doing what he likes, saying what he likes and making music he likes. He's no longer the outsider in the world's biggest manufactured band and as Gavin Haynes finds out in this week's cover story, he's got a brilliant tale to tell.

MIKE WILLIAMS
Editor-in-Chief
@itsmikelike



Primal Scream's Bobby Gillespie **p24**

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The one who left One Direction lets us into his world

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Bobby Gillespie opens up his emotional side

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Is the smooth Kentucky R&B singer the new Drake?

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AGENDA

WHAT EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT THIS WEEK

Your final Glastonbury headliner is...

Adele joins Muse and Coldplay on the Pyramid Stage in Somerset this June

IT WAS ONE OF THE WORST KEPT SECRETS IN THE INDUSTRY, but Adele herself officially let the cat out the bag about her Glasto headline slot during her O2 Arena performance in London last Friday (March 18). "I wanted to do it last year but my record wasn't ready," she said while onstage. "And to the people who say I'm too boring to headline, you're *more* f***ing boring for moaning about me headlining." Here's how NME readers reacted to the news – moaners included.

The reaction on Twitter

THE GOOD

Stoked @Adele is headlining Glasto!
@_hannah_walsh

I'm happy with that!
@ladydebbieanne

man I love Adele so much, ppl going to Glasto this year... ur going to have an amazing time
@beccacalder_

Love the way Glastonbury mixes it up. Cannot stand music snobs – thank goodness the vibe at the festival is always so great
@MelodyLGattenby

THE BAD

Adele headlining signals that Glastonbury is now just a family day out rather than the rock festival it used to be
@DavidLegion1

I think Adele is an amazing singer & talented however a Saturday night headliner at glasto?! Mind you it's so massive, loads of choices
@StacieMilne

Not trying to be disrespectful towards this amazing singer, but Glastonbury no longer Glastonbury that we used to know. Sad #glasto
@hadiysyakir

THE UGLY

Adele is boring as f**k, sh*t headliner
@_HarryClark_



Biffy Clyro's
Simon Neil

"It's an attack song"

Frontman Simon Neil digs into the soul of Biffy Clyro's new single 'Wolves Of Winter' – out now

THE WOLVES

"The title comes from a David Attenborough documentary about these wolves who live on a patch of land and whoever comes onto it is fair game. It's an attack song. It's me saying, 'Don't f**k with what we do', and sticking fingers up to the people who said our band wouldn't last very long."

THE CHATTER AT THE START

"Because we wanted to devolve with this album, we started recording *everything*. We were recording crickets outside our window every night. We recorded couples having arguments in the

street, which is hilarious in LA. We've got one that almost made it onto the album, where some guy was shouting, 'I could've f**ed those Brazilian girls!' It was an influence that came from listening to hip-hop – the textures, the atmospherics, the weird sounds."

THE DRUMS

"We recorded the last three albums in a very traditional way, but Rich's [Costey, producer] thing is to challenge you. On the first day of recording, Ben [Johnston, drummer] sat down to play 'Wolves...' when Rich took his bass drum, hi-hat and snare away, then went, 'Now play the song!' It made us unsure of ourselves – but that's important. I want to feel nervous and excited, I want to be unsure if what we're doing is brilliant or complete s**t."

THE VIDEO

"The concept is the evolution of man. It will be f***ing brilliant."

THE POTENTIAL FOR MAYHEM

"It was one of the first new songs we played together, and right away it felt f***ing brilliant. You can have a song you're sure is perfect, then when you go into the studio it falls flat. As soon as we recorded 'Wolves Of Winter' we were like, 'This has to open the record.' It's probably going to open our sets for the next two and a half years. You can imagine everyone screaming along, going absolutely f***ing mental – that's how all Biffy shows should be."

The new Biffy album: essential info

Title: 'Ellipsis'

Out: July 8

Recorded: In California, but written at the band's practice room in Kilmaurs, Ayrshire.

Key influences: DJ Arca, Deafheaven and Tears For Fears' 1985 classic 'Songs From The Big Chair'.

Simon says: "There are a few songs directed towards people who've let us down, ripped us off or f***ed us over."



Biffy Clyro (l-r): Ben Johnston, Simon Neil and James Johnston



GAME OF THRONES

It broke the internet when an embroidery depicting the massacre of Hardhome popped up in London.



LINDSAY LOHAN

The actress went viral with a clip of her lip-synching to a line from her 1998 film *The Parent Trap*.



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

The Terminator stormed out of an interview after being asked for his opinion on Donald Trump. He didn't come back.



PRINCE WILLIAM

The royal came under fire from Morrissey for endorsing hunting. Moz called him "an intellectual embarrassment".



NEW

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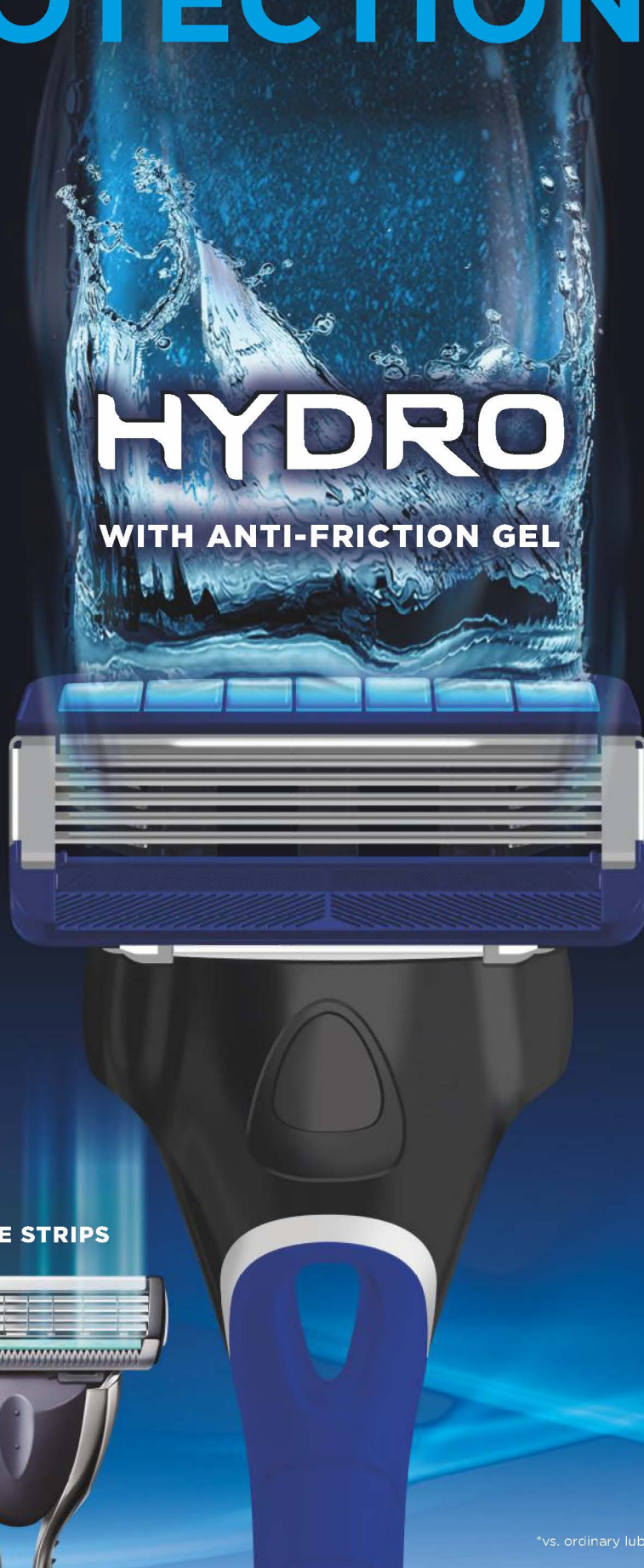
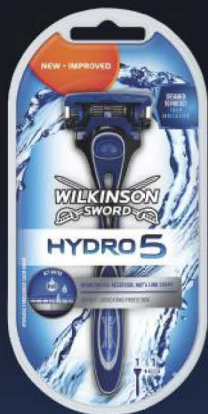


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Who'll be the new Han Solo?

In 2018, there'll be a *Star Wars* spin-off featuring a new, young Han Solo. The search for who'll fill Harrison Ford's dusty boots is down to these three



ALDEN EHRENREICH

Age: 26

From: LA, California

Notable roles: Hobie Doyle in *Hail, Caesar!*, Danny in *Blue Jasmine*, Ethan Wate in *Beautiful Creatures*

The back story: Ehrenreich was apparently discovered by Stephen Spielberg, who saw him in a short comedy film that was played at a bat mitzvah. His big break came as the lead in 2013's *Beautiful Creatures*.

The NME verdict: He's pals with the most powerful director in Hollywood, in the new Coen brothers film and set to become a Hollywood darling. Obvious frontrunner.

JACK REYNOR

Age: 24

From: Longmont, Colorado. But moved to Ireland with his mum when he was two.

Notable roles: Richard Karlsen in *What Richard Did*, Shayne Dyson in *Transformers: Age of Extinction*

The back story: Reynor's work is less well-known than Ehrenreich's, but by no means inferior. He was lauded for his role in the 2012 Irish accidental-murder drama *What Richard Did*, after which Hollywood came calling. He's set to reprise his *Transformers* role in 2017.

The NME verdict: If *Star Wars* producers want to continue giving young talent big breaks, Reynor may be their man. The dark horse.

TARON EGERTON

Age: 26

From: Born in Birkenhead but raised in Anglesey.

Notable roles: Gary 'Eggsy' Unwin in *Kingsman: The Secret Service*, Eddie Edwards in *Eddie The Eagle*.

The back story: The RADA-trained 26-year-old first grabbed attention in 2014 spy romp *Kingsman: The Secret Service*, for which he was nominated for the BAFTA Rising Star award. You can now catch him as the lead in *Eddie The Eagle*.

The NME verdict: A very charming Brit, but is he now typecast as a funnyman after *Eddie The Eagle*?

MINI INTERVIEW



Mike Posner

Detroit-born singer who's Number One right now with 'I Took A Pill In Ibiza'

How did you end up doing a pill in Ibiza with Avicii?

"We've been writing songs together for a long time. I was in Sweden working on his album and he had a gig in Ibiza, so he invited me along."

Was that your first pill?

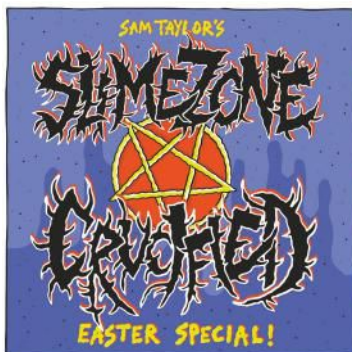
"Yeah. And the last."

Isn't the song more about your career over the past few years?

"Yeah, I made two records that got shelved. My career was considered over, and with '...Ibiza' I was being honest about coming down from success [Posner's 'Cooler Than Me' was a hit in 2010]. It's ironic that a song with the line 'I'm just a singer who already blew his shot' has actually given me another shot."

Did you consider quitting music altogether?

"I was still having success as a songwriter – 'Boyfriend' for Justin Bieber and 'Beneath Your Beautiful' for Labrinth – but I felt like I had something to say and I didn't want to have to go through another artist to say it."



"EXPLOSIVE, STUNNING
- A FITTING, PHENOMENAL END" MTV



EMPIRE

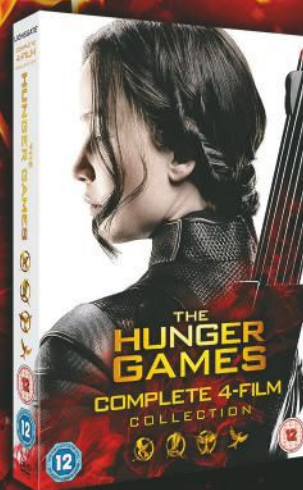
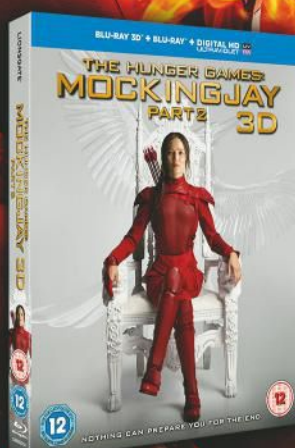
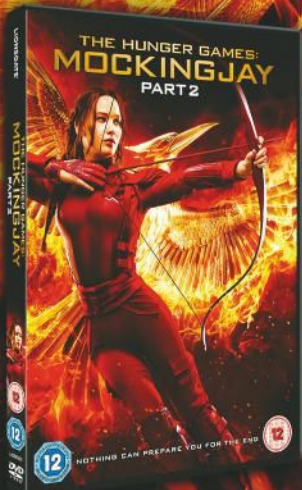


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What to expect from the upcoming Morrissey film

It's called *Steven*, the script is finished, and they've chosen who should play The Pope of Mope

JACK LOWDEN WILL BE MORRISSEY

You may recognise the 25-year-old from BBC drama *War And Peace*. His take on Morrissey: "He wanted to get out and escape into that explosion of music in Manchester around that time. It was exhilarating."

Jack gets it, which is reassuring.



JACK LOWDEN

THERE'LL BE NO SEX, AND NO DRUGS

The film will not focus on Morrissey's rock'n'roll years. Rather, in the vein of Sam Taylor-Johnson's 2009 *Nowhere Boy* – about John Lennon's adolescence in Liverpool – *Steven* will chart Morrissey's upbringing in 1960s Manchester. As director and

co-writer Mark Gill explained in the early stages of pre-production in 2014: "This is a love letter to Steven Patrick Morrissey and the dark satanic mills of Manchester."

IT IS "AS MUCH FOR NON-MORRISSEY FANS AS DIE-HARDS"

Says Gill.

IT SHOULD BE FUNNY

One of the greatest misconceptions about Morrissey is that he's not funny. Look at his 2013 book *Autobiography*.

Yes, there's a gruelling 100-page section where he details the Smiths/Morrissey royalties dispute in eye-scrapingly dull detail, but the first 100 pages are hilarious. They document his childhood, so there's plenty of material for Gill. Example: "Naturally my birth almost kills my mother, for my head is too big."

IT COULD BE A BIT LIKE CONTROL

An educated guess, based on the fact that *Steven*'s producer (Orian Williams) and casting director (Shaheen Baig) both worked on the Ian Curtis biopic from 2007.

FILMING STARTS IN MANCHESTER FROM MID-APRIL

So be patient.

Three geeky Moz facts

1 His first gig was T-Rex at the Belle Vue in 1972. Years later he bumped into singer Marc Bolan in a hotel and asked for his autograph. Bolan refused and walked off.

2 Morrissey told Johnny Marr he didn't think 'There Is A Light That Never Goes Out' – the most famous Smiths song – was good enough to go on their 1986 album 'The Queen Is Dead'.

3 In 2006, Morrissey was voted the second greatest living British icon by BBC's *The Culture Show*. He was beaten by David Attenborough.

For updates on *Steven*, go to NME.com



"IT'S BRILLIANT. ABSOLUTE



The



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AGENDA

Jimmy Carr's guide to the best of Netflix

He's the first UK comedian to be given a show (*Funny Business*, out now!) on the streaming service. Kind of a big deal. Before getting stuck into that, though, the 43-year-old recommends his favourite comedy specials



AZIZ ANSARI

Master Of None

"He was in *Parks And Recreation*. It's a bit like Louis CK's *Louie*, in that it's about Aziz's life. It's really charming, an easy watch. Half an hour floats by. It's like TV crack cocaine where you watch one and then go: 'Yeah. I might as well watch eight hours of this.'"

But what about Jimmy's show?

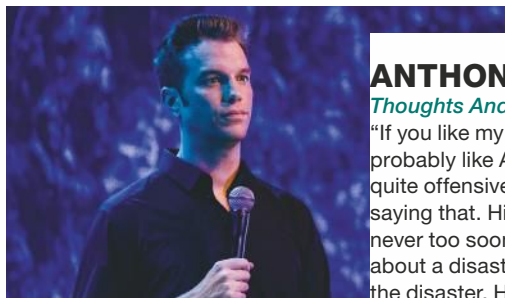
His intro to *Funny Business*

"It's typical me. There are maybe 150 one-liners in a row, but there's also lots of audience stuff – a section where the audience heckle me, which is what I'm kind of known for now. It was a really good night. It's pretty risqué."

CHELSEA HANDLER

Chelsea Does...

"I know Chelsea best as a stand-up from years ago. Then she went on to have this incredible success on the E! channel and by all accounts they were dicks. So she said: 'I'm off to do my own thing.' She's made these Louis Theroux-style documentaries called *Chelsea Does Drugs* and *Chelsea Does Racism*. She's a brilliant writer. Her first book *Are You There, Vodka? It's Me, Chelsea* is also brilliant."



ANTHONY JESELNIK

Thoughts And Prayers

"If you like my stuff then you'll probably like Anthony's. He's quite offensive. And that's me saying that. His policy is: 'It's never too soon'. He'll tweet a joke about a disaster on the day of the disaster. He does one-liners that some people laugh at and other people go: 'Whoah'."

CHELSEA PERETTI

One Of The Greats

"She's in *Brooklyn Nine-Nine*. She's wonderful in it, but she's also a brilliant stand-up, which people might not know. She's got this special, which is a really funny comedy show with weird cutaways to freaky stuff going on in the crowd."

All available on Netflix right now.



Last W33K IN NUMBERS



9

Number of albums Radiohead have recorded. The unreleased ninth is, says artist and regular collaborator Stanley Donwood, "a work of art".



£62m

Amount Netflix has paid for exclusive rights to the new Will Smith thriller *Bright*. Your move, Hollywood.



22

Years after Kurt Cobain's death the Seattle Police released a photo of the gun he used to kill himself. Odd.



£80m

Amount Hulk Hogan was awarded in his legal case against gossip site *Gawker*, which leaked his sex tape. That's a decent piledriver.

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THINGS WE LIKE

THIS WEEK'S OBJECTS OF DESIRE



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Old school sheet music makes for a classy way to brighten up your bedroom.
£14.95 kingandmcmcgaw.com



A mug's game

Drink coffee in style with this cup featuring a design by sign painter Von Leadfoot.
£12 redtempleprayer.com



Freezer food

Ice cream, but not as we know it. This Japanese delicacy is made with fancy gelato.
£5.99 littlemoons.co.uk



Crown jewels

Celebrate a decade since the birth of new rave with this statement neon necklace.
£19.99 rococojewels.com



Cord-ially yours

This corduroy jacket will have you looking like Bob Dylan c.1964. Always a strong look.
£50 topman.com



Charge your glasses

These Rad + Refined shades are utterly bonkers – which is why we love them.
£35 asos.com



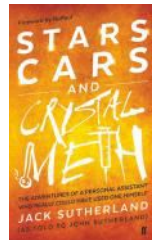
Furry friend

A shaggy, multi-coloured faux fur coat will brighten up your life no end.
£170 isolated-heroes.com



Game on

Season five of everyone's fave fantasy show *Game Of Thrones* is out on DVD now.
£24.99 amazon.co.uk



Scandalous reading

Stars, Cars And Crystal Meth offers an outrageous look into the life of a Hollywood PA.
£12.99 faber.co.uk



Refresh yourself

Avoid washing jeans for longer with this denim cleaning spray, you mucky pup.
£13.50 mr-blacks.com



Where is my beer?

Orbit Beers' spicy new IPA pays tribute to the classic Pixies track 'Hey'.
£3.20 eebria.com



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£109.99 misslfire.co.uk



Pocket rocket

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THIS WEEK

Dublin



"I love the accent!"

◀ **Anouska Proetta Brandon**
25, blogger

Listening to:
PATRICK COWLEY
Do You Wanna Funk (feat. Sylvester)
"It's a really funky '80s track that gets me in the mood for the day."

Wearing: Gat Rimon coat, ASOS jeans, Sigerson Morrison boots, Yves Saint Laurent bag, Mango scarf.
Best thing about Dublin:
"I love the accent!"



Jordan Dunbar >
22, trainee hairdresser

Listening to:
LANA DEL REY
Salvatore
"I haven't seen her live and it kills me. I even have a Lana tattoo!"

Wearing: AllSaints jumper, Topman jeans, Adidas Yeezy trainers, H&M jacket.

Best thing about Dublin:
"The people. We protect each other like we're family. No matter your differences or individual tastes."



◀ **Laura Rakhman-Kidd**
20, model

Listening to:
KENDRICK LAMAR
These Walls

"It's about personal barriers and seeing people for who they really are."

Wearing: Henry Holland coat, UNIF jeans, Office shoes.
Best thing about Dublin:
"It's so accessible. You can pretty much walk everywhere."



Alan Santos >
21, student

Listening to:
MODERAT
A New Error
"They're alternative German DJs with a really unique style."

Wearing: ASOS coat, Hollister jeans, Penneys knitted jumper.
Best thing about Dublin:
"There are so many great spots to have a coffee on a sunny day."



PHOTOS: ALEX SHERIDAN

new music



poliça
united crushers
out now

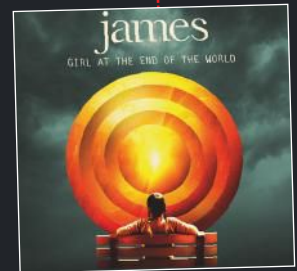
album of the month



steve mason
meet the humans
out now



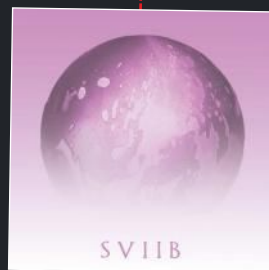
james
girl at the end of the world
out now



primal scream
chaosmosis
out now



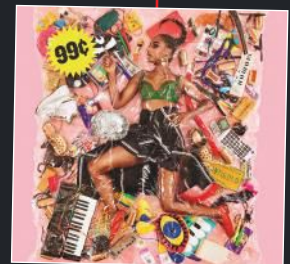
school of seven bells
sviib
out now



nada surf
you know who you are
out now



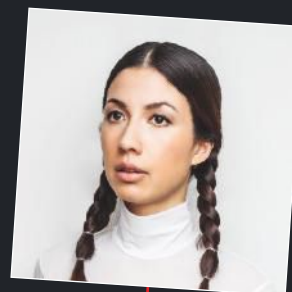
santigold
99 cents
out now



tiga
no fantasy required
out now



jeff buckley
you and i
out now



emmy the great
second love
out now



unloved
guilty of love
out now



the coral
distance inbetween
out now

**the
fopp
list**

the fopp list

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in this month's edition of the fopp list,
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cambridge sidney st
edinburgh rose st
glasgow union st & byres rd
london covent garden
manchester brown st
nottingham broadmarsh
shopping centre

H O U S E

O F

Z A Y N

Exactly one year ago, Zayn Malik quit One Direction. Since then, he's split up with his pop star fiancée, hooked up with Frank Ocean's producer and made a solo album. Gavin Haynes pulls up a stool at the pub in his back garden to hear the full story

"DID YOU GET THE SMOKE ON THAT?"

Zayn Malik is giving direction to his personal videographer, trying to make sure that the world sees his latest joint from its best angle. Throughout the four hours *NME* spends at Zayn's cover shoot, he smokes at least four of these impeccably rolled little mind-bombs, which means plenty of trips to and from the window. His walk is a kind of primal strut where the head leads and the shoulders come forward one at a time to hang out with the very cool head. You might walk like that too if you had £23m in the bank, a supermodel girlfriend and a record-breaking US and UK solo hit by the age of 23.

That girlfriend, Gigi Hadid, is also here, sat alongside Zayn's mainly American entourage, being fairly quiet and fiddling with her iPhone. He bobs over to her and lavishes some of that smoldering attention. They seem very much in lust.

Gigi starred in his 'Pillowtalk' video – the lusty, slow-burning comeback single that last month became only the 25th song in history to debut at Number One in the US. "It was something I felt was in me for a long time," Zayn will later tell us of the song. "It was exactly what I wanted to say."

In many ways, Zayn's is a story we've all seen before: increasing ennui at being a children's entertainer; the uncomfortable growth of appetites – musical, sexual or pharmaceutical – beyond those suitable for 14-year-olds. So it wasn't all that surprising when, not long after he'd been pictured with a girl who wasn't his fiancée (Perrie Edwards of Little Mix) on a Thai beachfront, Zayn woke up knowing in his bones that he'd had enough of being in One Direction. And that was it. "I called my security and I was like: I need to sort out a plane, I want to go home. I don't know how I knew, but I just did. So I chatted



PHOTOS: NABIL





with my cousin. Listened to a few songs. Just... waited for my plane to come."

The shoot starts late and overruns to the point where we're asked if we want to do the interview back at his "pub". And by 8pm, we're in a cab heading to London's leafier edges, deep in the stockbroker belt.

ZAYN MALIK'S HOUSE is a big white cube with round windows and glass balconies, the sort of thing footballers would buy if they were too edgy for the faux-Georgian stuff. And there, across about a hundred square metres of lawn, connected to the main house by a rope bridge, is Zayn's pub.

"It's in tribute to me grandad," the lord of the manor explains of his booze-shed. "I bought the bits from Homebase. I put it all together. I decided to turn it into a pub. I like f***ing around with the nail gun..."

Zayn's got whisky in his tumbler and an emergency joint behind his ear. There are a couple of taps, a collection of spooky skulls, some fake cobwebs probably left over from Halloween and a novelty beer helmet with funnels on it. There's a One Direction platinum disc on the far wall and, above the door, a small plaque giving the names of Zayn's maternal grandparents

and the pub they ran, The Bradford Arms.

It feels like an oasis for a lost boy who can't go down the real pub, but Zayn says he does sometimes get out into Realityland.

"When I go back to Bradford," he says, "I just put

me dad's coat on and walk about. People don't expect it to be me."

His latest video, for forthcoming single 'Like I Would', was shot in Manchester's grimy Miles Platting district just a few days ago. It dramatises all the stuff of Northern working class teenage life: Ford Fiestas, crappy takeaways and endless ladding about. Zayn loves what he calls "lad sh*t" (in addition to his crossbow, he has a couple of scrambler bikes, a go-kart and a samurai sword he describes as his "pride and joy").

"It wasn't like: *'I'm still Jenny from the block'*," he says of the vid. "It was more like: this is what I used to do. Go down the chip

shop, hang out with my boys in the car park. We never set fire to cars, but..."

Were you a good kid or a bad kid?

"I seemed to find myself in situations that weren't necessarily the best situations. Getting wound up by stuff people said..."

You were sensitive?

"I wasn't sensitive... I hate to get into it because it's not something that affects my brain any more. There was a kind of racial confusion with me. They didn't really know where to put me. I confused arrogance with ignorance. Certain people don't want to know certain things and I had to realise I couldn't teach them."

Zayn's mum Trisha, a dinner lady, converted to Islam when she married his dad. She was the one who'd make sure he went to mosque. She was also the one who forced him to get out of bed when he wanted to flake out on his *X Factor* audition.

But it was Zayn's Pakistani father who first got him into music. Yaser Malik liked '90s rap – Biggie and Tupac – and classic reggae: Gregory Isaacs, Bob Marley and Yellowman. Through these, Zayn migrated to Donell Jones, R. Kelly, Prince and local Bradford rappers. "I'll still talk about songs with people – like, 'Haven't you heard this song?!' – and I'll pull it up on YouTube and it'll only have 6,000 views 'cause it's only known in the local area."

The family struggled to meet the rent each month, and the first thing Zayn did when the money rolled in was buy them a house. He went to the infamous Tong School ("Unsatisfactory" – Ofsted) and in some ways you can see that in him – he's a guy who struggles to find the words to say what he's got to say. But he retains an artistic temperament, which would've made him stick out. All his many tattoos are self-designed and he regularly retweets fan art. At one point, he had a graffiti room in his house.

He says he always knew he'd end up as a solo artist – he auditioned as one, after all – and that being in the studio is what he lives for ("I love to f**k around with things that no one would ever get to hear"). He wrote all the lyrics for debut solo album 'Mind Of Mine' himself.

"It's really reflective of the whole experience that I want to give the listener," he says of his album's title. "I wanted it to be almost like a brainstorm. It's just music and it's just whatever you're feeling at that

"I've kept a little bit of my sanity"

Next Direction

What the other 1D boys have on the cards



NIALL HORAN

The cheery one

Last spotted: Peeing in an LA car park on a night out.

Career plans: He's reportedly set up a golf talent agency, Modest Golf.



LIAM PAYNE

The Gary Barlow one

Last spotted: Proclaiming his love for new GF Cheryl Fernandez-Versini on Insta.

Career plans: "Big Payno" wants a solo music career.



HARRY STYLES

The rockstar one

Last spotted: Getting a £70 parking ticket.

Career plans: He's just been cast in Christopher Nolan's film 'Dunkirk'.



LOUIS TOMLINSON

The laddy one

Last spotted: Topless, cradling his baby boy.

Career plans: He's tipped to replace Grimmy on *The X Factor*.

moment in time.”

One thing he’s been feeling is ‘Drunk’, a track his entourage kept begging up to me. I mention it, and Zayn reaches for his laptop. “You want to hear it?” Soon enough, an R&B torch song somewhere between Mario’s ‘Let Me Love You’ and R. Kelly’s ‘Ignition (Remix)’ blares out: “*Late nights/ Red eyes... We’ve been drunk all summer*”. It’s the sort of humid romance you can imagine becoming a staple audition track for a new generation of *X Factor* hopefuls.

WHEN ZAYN WENT through a very public bust-up with his original post-1D producer Naughty Boy, it felt like maybe his exit strategy would combust amid his own flailing ego – especially after he called the producer a “fat joke” on Twitter. But not long after, he started working with James “Malay” Ho, Frank Ocean’s studio guy, whom he can’t praise highly enough.

“With Naughty Boy, look, we just didn’t get on. And we’ll leave it at that. Malay is all about the music. He can tell you what the screw is in a microphone that gives it that tinny sound. He’s that kind of guy. And he’s a very interesting person. I find people interesting if they can break things down.”

Certainly, Malay has bent Zayn’s ear to the right credible influences. ‘Wrong’, for example, sees him duetting with Kehlani, the latest pretender to the nu-Aaliyah throne. In fact, Malay has ransacked all the chilly on-trend 2015 “PBR&B” – the synth-heavy, atmospheric stuff typified by The-Dream, The Weeknd and Miguel.

Elsewhere on ‘Mind Of Mine’, Zayn takes some detours. I ask about ‘Fool For You’, an unexpectedly Beatles-esque pop ballad in the style of ‘In My Life’. “I was listening to a lot of John Lennon the week I got that loop,” Zayn admits. “And there was this one song I got addicted to, with Indian music at the front of it, sitar, and then it becomes, like, another song...” It turns out he means ‘Lucy In The Sky With Diamonds’.

The doobie comes out from behind the ear and he sparks it up. “I’ve probably been smoking for a while,” he grins. “I don’t wanna say when I started because I don’t want to influence anyone else. That’s just something I do myself.”

Is it something you bring into the studio?

“It helps sometimes with the creative process, if you’re smoking a good weed.”

And anything stronger? Is this going to be your ‘My Drugs Hell’ summer?

His face flickers: “Don’t panic, it’s organic.” It’s the sort of non-answer Zayn’s good at. When we ask about anything political, he clams up. When we ask about what the future holds for his 1D pals, he gives it a swerve. In all of those years of being media-trained to within an inch of his life, Zayn learnt the aikido of the interview.

“I’m still probably the closest to Liam



(Clockwise from left:) with One Direction; with Gigi Hadid; on *The X Factor*



[Payne],” he says of his former bandmates. “We talk on the phone.”

What about?

“He congratulated me on my single. Which was nice. I congratulated him on his Brit Award.”

Sounds very cordial.

“It was a good chat. We hadn’t met in a long time so we want to meet up.”

When did you last see him?

“Probably before I left the band.”

So you haven’t seen anyone since then?

“I tried to have contact but nobody’s reached out. So... whatever.” He mumbles the last bit.

Do they hate you?

“Who knows.”

Would there be any valid reason for them to hate you?

“I don’t think so.”

So where were those rumours from? The ones that said you were booted out?

“I seem to remember someone saying something like that, but I don’t remember any rumours.”

Presumably, that whole time was a total f***storm?

“You can be in the eye of it if you choose to be. Or

you can let it overwhelm you.” He stands up from his stool, like he’s about to launch into the bridge of a 1D hit. “See, I’ve kept a little bit of my sanity. I understand how the media works. Journos gotta earn their money. Paps have got to earn their money.”

Did you learn that early on? That you needed to focus on the un-reality of all this, or it would destroy you?

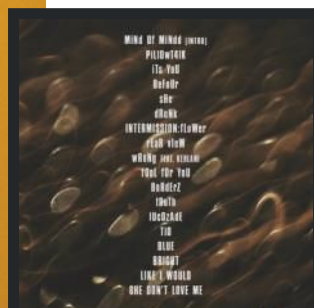
“I think so. I think that’s why it came across as being mysterious or detached. I just didn’t want to get caught up in something that wasn’t real. You can be the biggest band in the world for a certain time, but that ends.”

So you knew, even at the start, that you had to get out before the time limit expired?

“I’m not saying that. But if I did...” He laughs. “Then f*** me, I’ve got a great brain.”

Something unspoken hangs there. He’s canny, Zayn. He’s sensitive but strong-willed, a born leader. He’s outsmarted pretty much everyone by finding a way out of Syco intact. Is it too much of a stretch to think that his strategic aim may have been there all along?

The knock on the door comes. A handshake, a final grin from below those long, square eyebrows, and we leave Zayn to the only pub in the world where he can drink unmolested.



Keyboard warriors

The broad spectrum of Twitter responses to Zayn’s WeirDLY FoRmATteD AlBuM TRacKliSTinG

NOSTALGIA

“Did a 10 year old trying to bring back Myspace type Zayn’s track list?”
@paciorettys

ADORATION

“Omg I love the track list Zayn is cUTE Zayn is smart Zayn is amazing”
@zlorious

AFFECTION

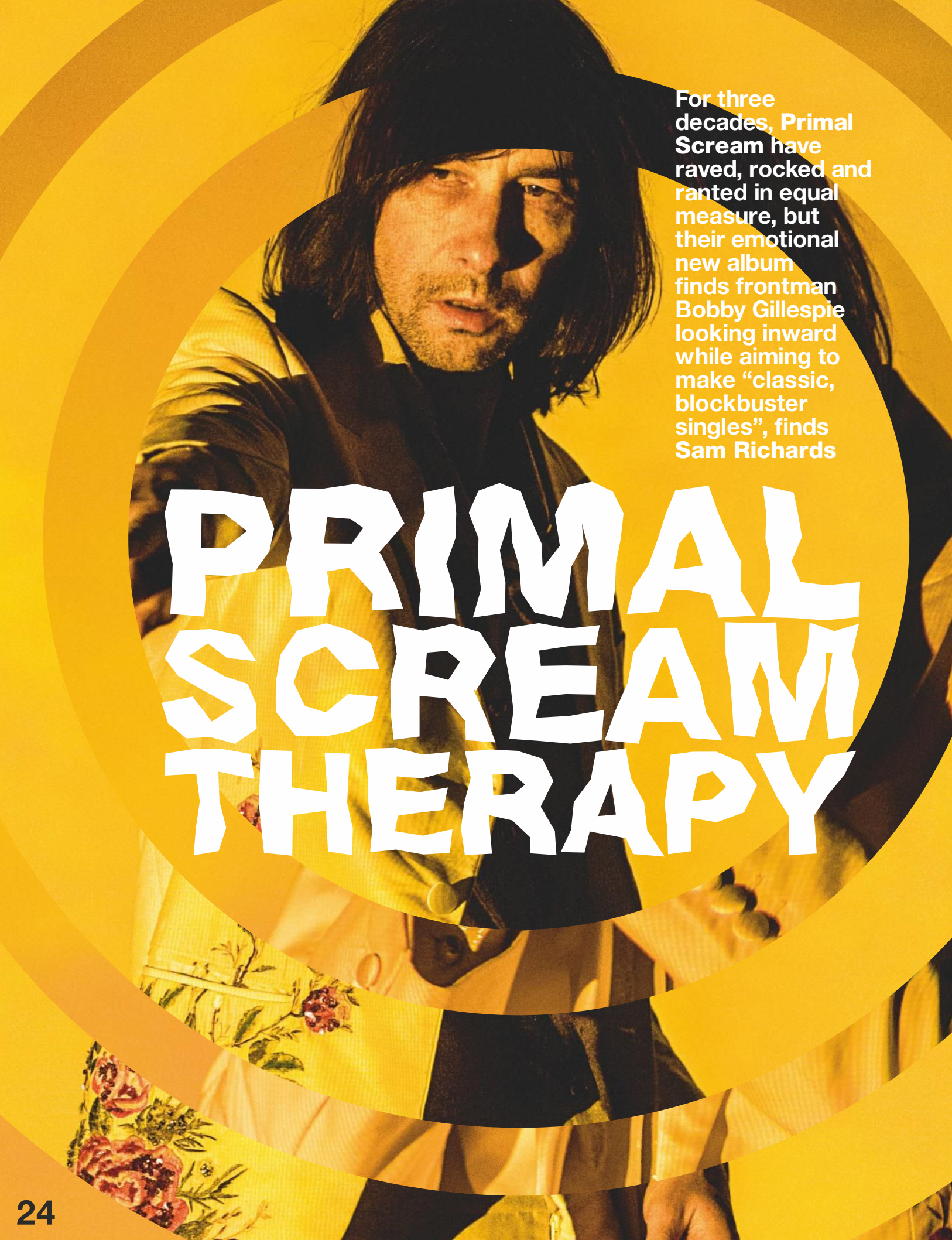
“I love how all the songs are spelled weird and you get to the last four and it’s like he gave up”
@artgodmalik

CONFUSION

“I just saw Zayn’s track list wHaT tHe f*.”
@mewoowtina

Read the review of Zayn Malik’s debut album ‘Mind Of Mine’ in next week’s NME.

NME



For three decades, Primal Scream have raved, rocked and ranted in equal measure, but their emotional new album finds frontman Bobby Gillespie looking inward while aiming to make “classic, blockbuster singles”, finds Sam Richards

PRIMAL SCREAM THERAPY

This band's been one big long art experiment," smiles Bobby Gillespie as he sits down to contemplate Primal Scream's 11th album, the poppy yet unexpectedly soul-baring 'Chaosmosis'. When he started the band in Glasgow in 1982, did he ever think he'd still be unveiling new material 34 years later? "I didn't think I'd make it to 30," he says immediately, alluding to a former penchant for hedonism that bordered on self-destruction. And yet here he is at 53, looking as lithe and impish as ever, enthusing about his new album full of "big choruses".

"People don't try to make classic, blockbuster singles any more," Bobby laments. "In the indie scene we're in, people make good, interesting albums and then tour them and make more good, interesting albums. It's boring. It's so f***ing safe. What we're doing with this record is trying to make pop singles. And even if they don't get in the charts, at least we tried to storm the f***ing citadel!"

With that aim in mind, Bobby set about reeling in some new collaborators. The cast list

makes for quite a contrast with their last album, 2013's 'More Light', which boasted cameos from veterans such as Robert Plant and The Pop Group's Mark Stewart. This time, Bobby duets with LA sisters Haim, cult pop star Sky Ferreira and Rachel Zeffira of Cat's Eyes. "It's quite a feminised record, not macho at all," Bobby says. "But that's just where we are. We feel more confident and secure in what we do."

Ferreira was earmarked for a key role when Bobby became obsessed with her 2012 single 'Everything Is Embarrassing'. "I played it again and again and again," says Bobby. "She was a pop star but she was trying to make records that sounded like a cross between [New York experimentalists] Suicide and The Jesus And Mary Chain, so I was f***ing intrigued. And there was a hurt in her voice. It was like a dream working with her: amazing girl, amazing singer, amazing presence." The wounded electropop of lead single 'Where The Light Gets In' was the result, pushing Primal Scream into territory never visited before.

In the past, Primal Scream lyrics have often felt a bit second-hand, collages of emotions culled from other classic records. You always knew what Bobby liked, but rarely knew how he *felt*. 'Chaosmosis' is more revealing: on the eerie bossa nova of 'I Can Change', Bobby admits to feeling "alone in the night" regretting "all the pain that I caused", while '100% Or Nothing' talks about "emotional violence... anger, resentment, disease in our minds".

"I thought it was interesting to write about living together [but] apart and the pain of that situation," explains Bobby. "It was something we'd never really done before. A lot of the songs are uptempo but the melodies we were writing were really sad, so the words had to be sad. And I carry that s**t around with me anyway." What kind of s**t? "Well, a lot of the songs deal with disconnection or inability to communicate. Everything in

society is now fractured and precarious. Your job, my job, us as individuals. We're supposedly connected through the internet but we're not. We're more isolated than ever. And our album picks up on some of those themes: how isolated a person feels, even in a relationship with somebody they love." For a moment, the ever-confident frontman looks a tiny bit forlorn.

"Every time I hear somebody on the radio singing a love song I feel a bit sick. Because people just don't get on. In my experience."

'Private Wars' is the most striking song on the album, its dolorous, folksy mood at odds with the traditional image of Primal Scream as hedonistic ravers or rabid political sloganeers. "Angry still at everyone," sings Bobby. "Time to let it go". A note to self? "Yeah. And it's a hard thing to let go, because I haven't let go of it! But I'm trying. Fifteen years ago I was like, 'Everybody's playing f***ing roles! I don't trust anybody, I don't believe anybody!' And it was [My Bloody Valentine frontman and erstwhile Scream guitarist] Kevin Shields who said to me: 'Most people are OK; they're just trying to get through the day.' It was nice. Good wisdom from Mr Shields."

Is this a new, zen Bobby we're seeing? Not quite – he can't make it through the interview without railing, entertainingly, against the "mass de-politicisation of culture" and "guys in skinny jeans who just want to be famous". But his faith in the notion that great music can soothe your soul is stronger than ever. Primal Scream's light shines on.

NME

PHOTOS: JENN FIVE, SAM CHRISTMAS

Bobby's bugbears

The things he's screaming about

BANDS REFORMING

"I heard somebody on the radio this morning who sounded like they did 20 years ago. It's arrested development."

SECOND ALBUM HELL

"I read interviews with bands talking about the hell of their second album. What the f**k? It's hell working in factory."

POLITICAL APATHY

"There are fewer dissenting voices in culture than ever before. The most political artist in Britain now is Charlotte Church."

"It's quite a feminised record, not macho at all"

Gillespie's gang Bobby On 'Chaosmosis's guest vocalists



SKY FERREIRA
"There's a darkness to Skye. A

vulnerability, a soulfulness. She's a great singer – she's got a great pop voice. A real character and mysterious girl."



HAIM
"When we rehearsed for Glastonbury we heard Alana,

Danielle and Este sing on the same mic and it was incredible. Really gospelly, really funky, really soulful. Sexy as well."



RACHEL ZEFFIRA
"Rachel's a friend and you always make the best

music with your friends. She can play a variety of instruments and arrange choirs. She's very talented."

Bobby Gillespie with Sky Ferreira



BRYSON TILLER

The Bryce is right

Kentucky's Bryson Tiller is America's next soul superstar, says Leonie Cooper

BRYSON TILLER is the 23-year-old R&B singer-songwriter from Louisville, Kentucky, whose 2015 mixtape 'Trapsoul' fits perfectly into the sexy but sad world of Drake and Frank Ocean. He's in London this week for three shows at KOKO (which sold out in under two minutes, thanks to a rabid fanbase) and he'll be returning to play the rest of the nation later this year. Here's what you need to know...

HE STARTED SINGING AS A PICK-UP TECHNIQUE

A teenage Bryson began singing to brush up on his flirtation skills. "I used to sing to girls in the hallway at school," he explains. Word of his talent soon spread and friends began to invite him over to work on tracks. Music was just a hobby until the birth of his daughter, when he was working part time at Papa John's Pizza and for delivery company UPS. His hard work paid off – he tweeted this Christmas: "Last year I had to borrow money for my daughters xmas gifts but because of yall, this year we xtra good. so thank you."

A BIEBER COLLAB IS ON THE CARDS

In January, he played his biggest show to date at Los Angeles' Wiltern Theatre. In the crowd was a certain Justin Bieber. "That was crazy," says Bryson. As soon as Justin was pictured at the show, rumours of a possible collaboration spread like wildfire on Twitter. So Bryson, is it going to happen? "Oh yeah, definitely." You heard it here first.

HE TURNED RIHANNA DOWN

Rihanna was at the LA show too. "Being in a room full of celebrities there to see me was very strange," says Bryson. "We talked for a second. She wanted me to come on tour." Sadly, due to his own shows, he had to pass on the offer. "I would have loved to go on tour with her!" Next time Bryson, next time.

HE'S DRAKE'S ONE THAT GOT AWAY

Drake wanted to sign him to his label OVO. Bryson had other ideas. "I had a few offers on the table, one from Drake, one from RCA and one from Interscope," he explains. "I made a lot of bad business decisions in my past, based on my emotions – I was naïve. So this time around I had a lawyer and I had a manager. RCA just seemed really interesting."

HIS BIGGEST TUNE WAS RECORDED AT HOME

Bryson put 'Don't' – a slow-burning sex jam over trap beats – on his SoundCloud account in 2014. "I bought a bunch of stuff on eBay and it all came in the mail one day. I woke up one morning and it was the first song I recorded on my new equipment. I did it before my daughter woke up," says Bryson. Yet the session didn't go entirely to plan. "My computer messed up and every time I tried to record there was just a bunch of static. The song was supposed to be longer but I had to cut it short because I couldn't record anything else."

NME

Bryson Tiller plays London's KOKO, Mon 28-Wed 30 March

Three Bryson Tiller tunes you need to hear now

'DON'T'

Bryson's breakthrough tune 'Don't' scored 20 million SoundCloud plays in less than a year. Sultry, saucy and utterly addictive.

'EXCHANGE'

In which Bryson ponders his ex and how he can win her back. "I hope she's waiting for me," he sings.

'SORRY NOT SORRY'

"Girl I'm sorry, you not the one for me," sasses Bryson, upping his usual tempo over skittering beats.

PHOTO: STACY-ANN ELLIS

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RADAR

MUSIC, FILM, TV, GAMES AND MORE – THIS WEEK'S ESSENTIAL NEW RELEASES

Best NEW tracks And when to drop them

BEST FOR GRRRL RIOTS

DREAM WIFE

Kids

Ditching the vampy vibes of last track 'Hey Heartbreaker', this exciting new trio now sound like the brightest thing British indie's thrown up in ages.

BEST FOR SMOOTH SEDUCTION

ZAYN MALIK

BeFoUr

Slick as hell and displaying a fine falsetto from the former boybander, 'BeFoUr' is Zayn's most Justin Timberlake moment yet.

BEST FOR STARING COMPETITIONS

LISS

Sorry

The rising Danish R&B act get all moody on us on this brilliant Prince-influenced slow jam.

BEST FOR STARTING SUMMER EARLY

MURA MASA

What If I Go?

There's a serious sunshine vibe to this track from the Guernsey newcomer – time to dust off your denim jacket.

BEST FOR RAGING HARD

DEFTONES

Doomed User

If their last track 'Prayers/Triangles' was quintessential Deftones – melodic but hard – then 'Doomed User' is a return to the band at their most vitriolic.

BEST FOR DANCING ON TABLES

SERATONES

Chandelier

Fat Possum Records (Sunflower Bean, Fat White Family) have signed this ace Louisiana band, who come on like a rockier version of Alabama Shakes.



SERATONES

BEST FOR FARE DODGING

KAYTRANADA

Bus Ride

The first taster from the cult producer's debut album '99.9%' is totally blissed out, sounding like a trip through the Montréal underground.

BEST FOR STUDENT SQUAT PARTIES

JULIA JACKLIN

Pool Party

One of the breakout acts from SXSW festival, Aussie Julia Jacklin's 'Pool Party' sounds like Courtney Barnett and Patsy Cline stuck in a studio together.

DREAM WIFE

BEST FOR TWILIGHT DRIVES

METHYL ETHEL

Idée Fixe

Newbies Methyl Ethel are tipped to be the next Tame Impala, but the heartfelt, downtrodden 'Idée Fixe' is actually closer to Oasis at their acoustic best.

BEST FOR JAM SESSIONS

THE LAST SHADOW PUPPETS

Aviation

Another Miles Kane-led track from TLSP, this one's hooked around a snarky Jam-like guitar line from Alex Turner.

For more new music,
go to NME.com

The Last Shadow Puppets:
Alex Turner (l) and Miles Kane

ALBUM
OF THE
WEEK

I love you, man

Alex Turner and Miles Kane's bromance continues on a slippery second album

THE LAST SHADOW PUPPETS

Everything You've Come To Expect



SOFT-ROCK CHAT-UP LINES LA

FROM 'THE AGE OF The Understatement' to the era of matching velour tracksuits, a lot of water has passed under the bridge between The Last Shadow Puppets' 2008 debut and this long-awaited follow-up. Alex Turner has swapped Sheffield for LA and youthful recalcitrance for "that rock'n'roll", while Miles Kane is no longer just Turner's plus-one but an indie-rock playboy with a sizeable fanbase of his own. A second Shadow Puppets record always felt inevitable, given how inseparable the pair are (Kane has even followed Turner to California) but the real question was what that



album might sound like after eight years on the back-burner.

Unlike their debut, 'Everything You've Come To Expect' isn't fixated on the '60s baroque-pop of Scott Walker and David Axelrod, although a different vibe and era – '70s soft-rock and blue-eyed soul – does prevail in places. Opening track 'Aviation' may be the closest they come to sounding like their former selves – it's the "Puppety tune" that convinced them to reprise the project – although we don't recall

them ever being so forward as Kane's reptilian come-on of "It's your decision, honey/ My planet or yours?". The lounge-lizard act – which, judging by Kane's behaviour during a recent Spin interview, isn't confined to the music – feels especially self-parodic on lead single 'Bad Habits', although it's redeemed by Owen Pallett's sweeping, cinematic string arrangements (once again, the Canadian composer is the Shadow

Puppets' unsung hero).

In any case, the standout moments tend to be the softer, sweeter ones, with Turner putting that sardonic croon to good use on 'Sweet Dreams, TN' and the surreal 'The Dream Synopsis', while the honeyed soul-pop of 'Miracle Aligner' and 'The Element Of Surprise' sound custom-made for sunset cruises along the Pacific Coast Highway. These days, Turner and Kane are a far cry from the doe-eyed 22-year-olds who made 'The Age Of The Understatement', but as a partnership they continue to provoke intriguing responses from each other, with Kane upping his game significantly from his last solo record and Turner seemingly less inclined to couch himself in irony. This album isn't quite what we've come to expect from The Last Shadow Puppets, but that's just how we like it. **Barry Nicolson**

LIKE THIS? TRY THIS!



NED DOHENY
'Hard Candy' (1976)
The Malibu-born singer-songwriter's second album – a

commercial failure upon release which has since found a cult following – was on repeat during the making of 'EYCTE' and its radiant SoCal soft-rock certainly seems to have left a mark.

Music for Alan Partridge

The eccentric Texans' sixth album comes with cheesy '70s licks and a strong whiff of motor oil

WHITE DENIM

Stiff



SOLOS THE '70S DRIVING

IT MAY NEVER HAVE been a vaulting ambition, but after six bites of the cherry, White Denim have made an album Alan Partridge would truly love. The quartet, from Austin, Texas, have been on the peripheries of a breakthrough for almost a decade, with each album strengthening their cult appeal. Perhaps 'Stiff' is the one to propel them into the mainstream (or perhaps not).

Recorded with Ethan Johns (Kings Of Leon, The Vaccines), it infuses an overt Doobie Brothers influence with the intoxicating whiff of Castrol GTX, a heady miasma

for any proudly anachronistic geezers out there. It's the sound of '70s Man, smoking in the car, untethered from the prescriptive menace of the seatbelt, rolling along the

M25 singing his head off to Peter Frampton.

Opener 'Had 2 Know (Personal)' lashes along like a convertible with the top down,

only spoiled by the fact you can easily imagine Jeremy Clarkson's enormo-noggin poking out of the chassis. 'Holda You (I'm Psycho)' even sounds like the theme to *Top Gear* at the outset, before tussling away like a pair of pissed cowboys fighting as they fall down the stairs. 'Ha Ha Ha Ha (Yeah)' is propelled by the emphatic tinkling of a tambourine, a neoteric Northern Soul number just waiting to be ordained a classic. So far, so blokey.

'There's A Brain In My Head', the first track to thankfully break with parentheses, slows the pace and drips with the spirit of late Scottish AOR merchant Gerry Rafferty. 'Take It Easy (Ever After Lasting

Love)', is an Isley Brothers-inspired venture into what Flight Of The Conchords liked to call Business Time and by the conclusion White Denim could do with a cold bucket of water chucked over them. 'I'm The One (Big Big Fun)' is laid-back with intermittent flourishes of wah-wah – you can almost smell the super-skunk and petunia.

White Denim wear their virtuosity proudly and with each album their brand of bluesy, Southern-style boogie-woogie becomes less obscured by experimentation, although whether or not that's a good thing is a moot point. This is certainly the kind of music punk had to be invented for. It probably won't make it onto the Radio 1 playlist, but don't be surprised if something from 'Stiff' pops up on *Mid Morning Matters*. Ahhaaaaaa! **Jeremy Allen**

STRANGE & TRUE

Frontman James Petralli intended to follow his father Geno into a professional baseball career, but partied too hard and turned to music instead.



White Denim: (l-r) Jeff Olson, James Petralli, Steve Terebecki and Jonathan Horne

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Keep it unreal

Proggy Oldham singer with loads of brilliantly brain-frying ideas

KIRAN LEONARD
Grapefruit



GENRE-HOPPING MADNESS WIT

MUSIC HISTORY IS littered with prodigiously talented mavericks who had outsized ideas but could never quite transfer them to a mass audience: everyone from Big Star's Alex Chilton to Janelle Monáe.

Kiran Leonard, a restless, genre-less multi-instrumentalist from Oldham, may still prove to be one of those – but in the run-up to the release of his second album 'Grapefruit', there's a swell of chatter growing around his remarkable, ambitious music.

Barely out of his teens, Leonard claims to have been listening to noisy Japanese eccentrics such as Boredoms and Melt-Banana since he was 10, and certainly displays the brash confidence of a far older auteur across these eight songs.

'Pink Fruit' was released late last year, an unlikely single at 16 minutes long. A many-segmented emotional rollercoaster, akin to Radiohead's 'Paranoid Android' stretched to extremes, it shifts

from itchy math-rock guitar to crunchy '70s prog crescendos to drifting sections of delicate woodwind. Later on, 'Grapefruit' limits its songs to a comparatively punk-rock 10, nine or even eight minutes – put simply, if you think 'self-indulgent' is an insult, this isn't for you.

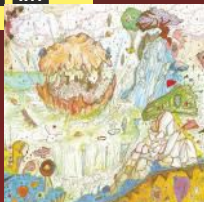
Which isn't to say that Leonard trades in abrasive ugliness: 'Secret Police' and 'Caiaphas In Fetters'

are both swooning and string-based and perhaps in tune with an indie-rock culture that's allowed the grandiose moves of Joanna Newsom and Sufjan Stevens to become successful. His vocal prowess is impressive too, capable of both swooning tonsil gymnastics ('Öndöör Gongor') and banshee-like roaring melodrama ('Fireplace'). Comparisons to the late Jeff

Buckley will likely result, but this dude is way more out to lunch.

Songs often start and finish with a bizarre inauspiciousness, as if Leonard and band are only half-bothered about servicing an audience. The last 45 seconds of 'Caiaphas In Fetters' consists of someone talking about Reader Rabbit, a 1980s educational computer game. 'Exeter Services' has a midsection of wholly atonal, free-jazz-like plucking and scraping.

Yet it all hangs inexplicably together, thanks to heavy doses of charm and wit, its ability to propel your emotions from thrilled to weepy to lovelorn in a trice – and the promise that Kiran Leonard might grow into a properly important figure in British rock. **Noel Gardner**



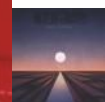
Also out this week



THE JOY FORMIDABLE
Hitch

★★★★☆

Romantic turbulence between Ritzzy Bryan (vocals, guitar) and Rhyddan Dafydd (backing vocals, bass) of North Wales's premier rock masters The Joy Formidable has brought darkness and raunch to their pop maelstroms. 'The Last Thing On My Mind', 'Running Hands With The Night' and 'It's Started' are sultry blues explosions akin to Arctic Monkeys' 'AM'.



RJD2
Dame Fortune

★★★★☆

Glossy vocals

from Jordan Brown, Son Little, Josh Krajcik and Phonte Coleman amplify the luxurious neo-soul core of RJD2's sixth album. 'Dame Fortune' is at its catchy and heartfelt best when Little channels Pharrell and Daft Punk on '80s electro funk ballad 'We Come Alive'.

Read reviews of many more albums on NME.com

FOR FANS OF



RADIOHEAD



FRANK ZAPPA

WORDS: MARK BEAUMONT, KIM HILLYARD. PHOTOS: SEBASTIAN MATTHIES, DAVID GAHR

STRANGE & TRUE

(L-r:) Judy (voiced by Ginnifer Goodwin) and Nick (Jason Bateman) in *Zootropolis*

Kristen Bell, best known as the voice of *Frozen*'s Anna, plays a sloth. She was given the role after crying about her obsession with sloths on Ellen DeGeneres' talk show.

Animal magic

Zappy cartoon caper that elegantly deals with racial, sexual and class discrimination

ZOOTROPOLIS

PG Ginnifer Goodwin, Jason Bateman, Idris Elba



COMEDY FILM NOIR PREJUDICE

WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT that the smartest film of 2016 so far would centre on a cartoon bunny? Saying that *Zootropolis* deals with complex issues of racial, sexual and class discrimination might make it sound like some sort of dreadful, preachy homework film. But its brilliance is in smoothly

weaving these messages into the fabric of a film that's very silly and enormously funny.

The story takes place in an animal world where all beasts talk, walk and generally live their lives in human ways (no humans are mentioned, presumably either never having existed or been driven to extinction). Judy (*Walk The Line*'s Ginnifer Goodwin) dreams of being the first rabbit cop, despite everyone in her life telling her it's no job for a bunny. She fulfils her ambition and moves to Zootropolis, a super-city where all creatures great and small apparently live happily alongside each other. Her

grumpy buffalo boss (*Luther*'s Idris Elba) assigns Judy traffic duty, but when she gets wind of a possible kidnapping, she investigates with the assistance of con-artist fox Nick (*Arrested Development*'s Jason Bateman).

That plot works marvellously in isolation, with all the twists and conspiracies of a classic film noir alongside sweet, zappy, buddy comedy. Yet, it's what comes in addition to that which makes *Zootropolis* exceptional. Directors Byron Howard (*Tangled*) and Rich Moore (*Wreck-It Ralph*) fill the screen with clever sight gags, like lemmings as interchangeable office workers or sloths as unbearably

slow employees at the Department Of Motor Vehicles. Then there are all the observations of a society trying to advance itself, but sticking to prejudices that have been held for so long that even those who consider themselves liberal occasionally betray unthinking bigotry. What 2004's Oscar-winning *Crash* was trying to say about modern society, with the subtlety of a rampaging elephant, this does on light, elegant, mouse feet. On first watch, *Zootropolis* is thought provoking and funny. With time, it may actually reveal itself to be genius. **Olly Richards**





Kristen Wiig

Serious money

Bridesmaids star Kristen Wiig leaves the LOLs behind for a sincere turn as a lottery-winning wannabe TV star

WELCOME TO ME

15 Kristen Wiig, Wes Bentley, Linda Cardellini



LOTTERY TALK SHOWS GRUDGES

THE ROLE OF ALICE KLIEG will not be one of those big, dramatic turns that makes people see a comedian in a new light. Yet while still a comic part, it shows real dramatic depths to *Bridesmaids* star Kristen Wiig. Alice is a manic-depressive who likes swans, Oprah Winfrey and the lottery. When she wins \$86million

on the lottery, Alice invests the bulk of her prize into creating a talk show – but not one where she'll talk to other people. Instead, Alice relates her half-formed thoughts to camera and airs grudges against old school friends (played out in awkward reconstructions). The show is watched initially only by TV station employees, then gradually Alice's ratings climb until she's big enough to beat a rerun of *The Fresh Prince Of Bel-Air*.

The joke here is not on Alice and her mental illness. Her actions are those of an egomaniac but Wiig gives them the quality of a sad request for attention. That said, director Shira Piven (*Step Brothers*) overdoes a lot of the scenes in Alice's show, leaning more into absurdity than tragedy. Alice's relationships are left under-examined, so when the ending shifts focus to other people in her life, it just doesn't work. Ultimately, it's like Alice herself: confused by what it wants to be. **Olly Richards**

NME PROMOTION

(L-r:) Seth Rogen, Anthony Mackie and Joseph Gordon-Levitt



The five most on-point pop culture moments in *The Night Before*

The super-referential bromedy starring Seth Rogen, Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Anthony Mackie is out on DVD now

1 KANYE WEST'S 'RUNAWAY' GOES BIG

The boys play Kanye's banger on a giant piano, in tribute to Tom Hanks' iconic scene from *Big*. The lyrics are fitting for this trio: "Let's have a toast for the douchebags."

2 THE SHINING'S TWINS

Seth Rogen's Isaac encounters a contrary, tartan-clad pair of girls at a Christmas party and compares them to the nightmarish duo from Stanley Kubrick's seminal horror *The Shining*. Bit harsh.

3 RUN-D.M.C.'S 'CHRISTMAS IN HOLLIS', KARAOKE-STYLE

Straight after their *Big* moment, the boys hit up a karaoke bar for a spot of shroom-fuelled Christmas rapping to Run-D.M.C.'s seasonal classic. Joseph Gordon-Levitt's Ethan forces his friends to put on Fair Isle knitwear. Rad.

4 ILANA GLAZER'S TERRIFYING CHRISTMAS VILLAIN HYBRID

Broad City's Ilana plays a "yaaas"-spouting villain who plays by the rules of her evil Christmas heroes.

5 MILEY CYRUS'S 'WRECKING BALL' CROPPING UP EVERYWHERE

The boys party to it... and Miley makes a brilliant cameo.

The Night Before is out on Blu-ray & DVD on Mar 28



Speak of the devil

Marvel's darkest adaptation yet is back for series two. **WARNING: SPOILERS ALERT**

DAREDEVIL

Available on Netflix now
Charlie Cox, Elden Henson,
Deborah Ann Woll

SUPERHEROES **VIOLENCE** **NEW YORK**

DARK, BLOODY AND brooding, series one of Netflix's *Daredevil* proved that Marvel's superhero universe translated to TV. Series two delves into the comic, with new adversaries for protagonist Daredevil – AKA Matt Murdock, who gained a 'radar' sense after being blinded by radioactive goo as a kid – and a spiralling body count. Here's what's going down.

DAREDEVIL'S SECRET IS OUT

Murdock (played by *The Theory Of Everything*'s Charlie Cox) has a best friend named Foggy Nelson who now knows he parades around in superhero PJs at night. Series two also sees Foggy (*Hunger Games* actor Elden Henson) drawn further into Hell's Kitchen gangland. You'd be wise to fear for him.

WHO IS THE REAL KAREN PAGE?

Nelson & Murdock's secretary slugged a guy eight times in series one and admitted it wasn't the first time. But if the show is playing with Karen's true nature, maybe it's because she doesn't quite know the extent herself. "What if I'm drawing this stuff this way?" she asks as the body count starts to mount. What if...

WELCOME FRANK CASTLE, AKA THE PUNISHER

The new ultra-violent vigilante in town is played by Jon Bernthal (*The Wolf Of Wall Street*). Ex-military (hi back story!), he's a one-man killing machine whose total wipeout of bad guys powers the series' narrative arc. Look out for crooks hanging from meat hooks and Irish mobsters with missing limbs.

THE STENCH OF ROMANCE

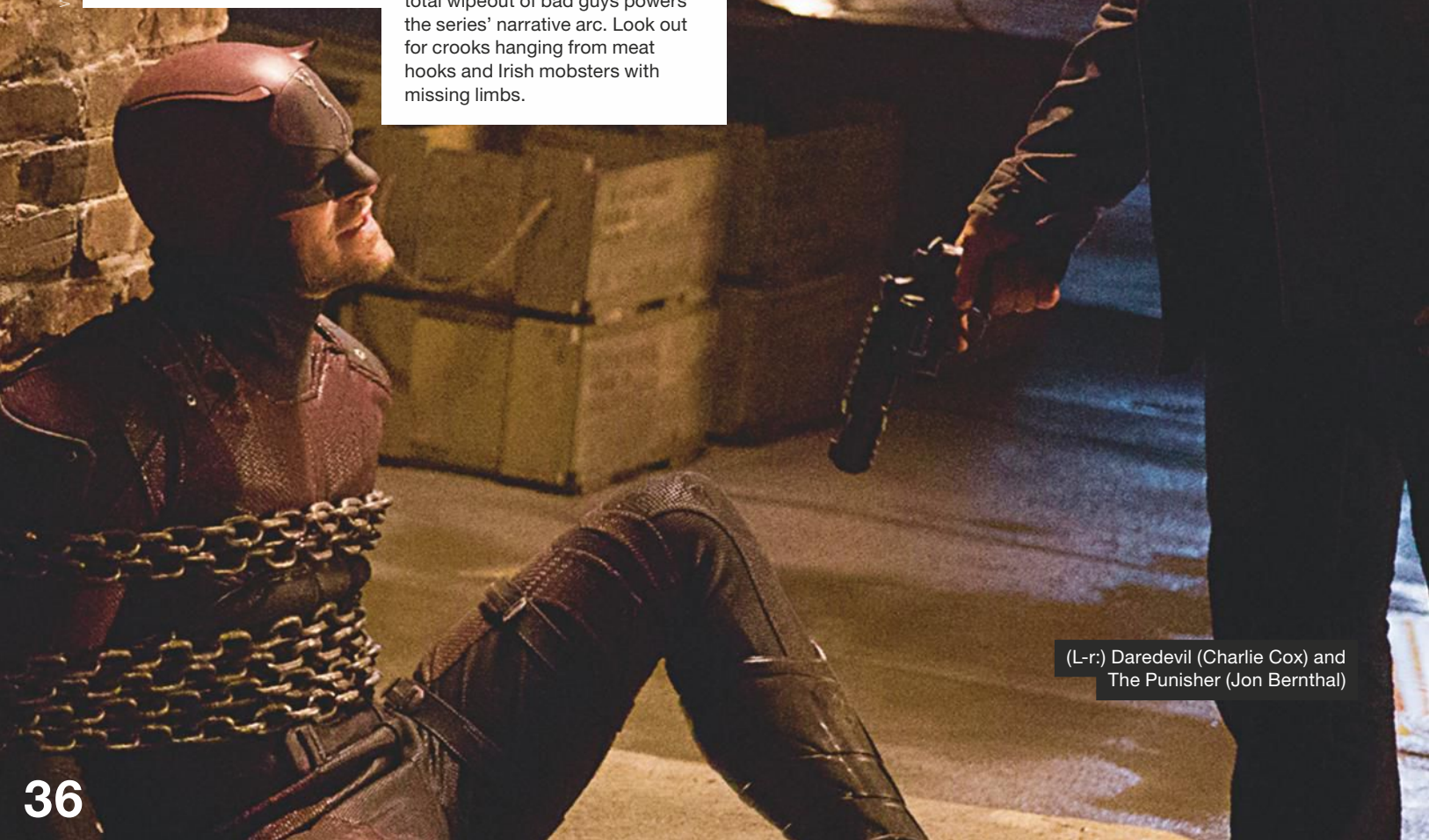
Murdock's heightened senses mean he can hear heartbeats, so he can tell Karen digs him. If the sparks between Karen and Matt don't fly, he's got another former love interest on the scene. But the mysterious Elektra Natchios (Élodie Yung, *The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo*) isn't exactly snuggling material either.

YET MORE DARKNESS

For a show with a hero who can stomach stabbing someone in the eye, *Daredevil* had its work cut out to get any darker. But series two definitely does, turning Hell's Kitchen into a more brutal, bloodier space and turning the show into far more than a cut 'n' paste job from the comics.

THE UNDERLYING RIFF ON GOOD AND EVIL

Devout Catholic Murdock leaves the bad guys bloodied but alive. The Punisher has no qualms about killing them. Here is where we find the show's soul.



(L-r:) Daredevil (Charlie Cox) and The Punisher (Jon Bernthal)



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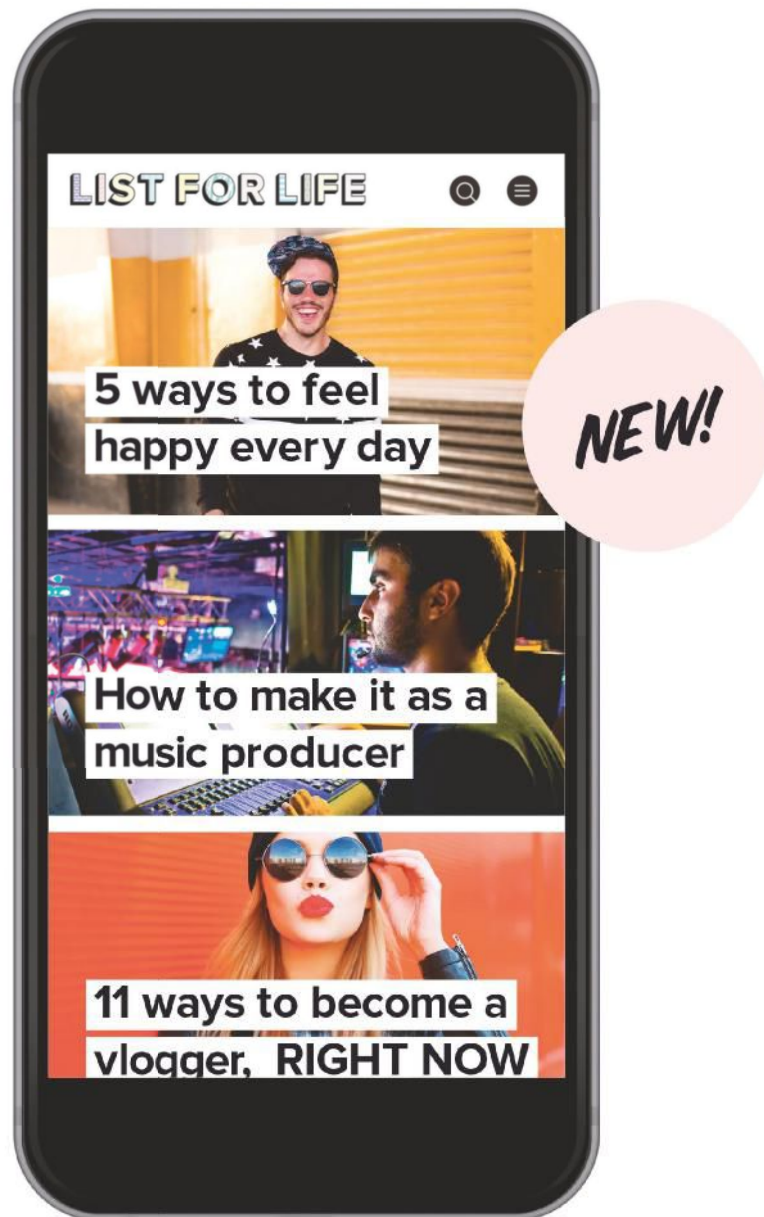
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♥ WHAT YOU DO

YOU HEARD IT HERE FIRST

Isaac Gracie

UK songwriting troubadour who's had the entire music industry in a tizz

IT'S NOVEMBER 2015 AND an under-confident kid from Ealing is causing the biggest ruckus the UK's new music scene has witnessed all year.

Lucian Grainge, the head of Universal and perhaps the most powerful person in the entire record industry (currently Number 1 on *Billboard*'s 'Power 100' list) has flown into the UK direct from LA to prop himself up at the bar of the capital's poky Lexington venue. Once there, he strains to get a look at the performer onstage, whose pastoral and folky acoustic songs recall everybody from Jeff Buckley to Ryan Adams.

All the fuss comes off the back of a demo called 'Last Words', written and uploaded to SoundCloud by a long-haired, deep-eyed guitarist called Isaac Gracie. "I'm an anxious person,

so the relations I have with my songs are like, 'Oh, that's a bit crap'," Isaac tells me, having just signed a rumoured half-million record deal with one of Grainge's labels, Virgin EMI. "But with 'Last Words', I wrote it the night before a gig and I was so happy with it that I played it the next day..."

He's not exaggerating about the anxiety. Throughout our interview the 21-year-old questions not only his talent but the entire position he's found himself in of late. "It's so easy, as a singer-songwriter, to really dilute the crap out of something," he says wearily.

But the simple fact is that 'Last Words' is no fluke and Gracie's talent marks him out as special. This week he releases his debut EP, entitled 'Songs From My Bedroom', and off the back of it every festival boss in the country is desperate to book him this summer. Basically, it's high time for him to put all those troubles to bed. **Matt Wilkinson**

Details

BASED London

SOCIAL Soundcloud.com/isaac-gracie

BUY IT Debut EP 'Songs From My Bedroom' is out now

LIVE

Mar 30 Cadogan Hall, London

Apr 20 Oslo, London

Apr 30 Live At Leeds

May 10 Waiting Room, London

May 19 The Great Escape, Brighton

FACT Isaac is obsessed with one iconic songwriter in particular. "Jeff Buckley," he sighs. "I have to tiptoe around him because he's my *man*."

For more on Isaac Gracie, head to NME.com

"Jeff Buckley is my man"

FOR FANS OF



JAKE BUGG



JEFF BUCKLEY

Best track

'Terrified'

It's like a long-lost Pixies demo with ghostly backing vocals.

live

THE 10 MOST IMPORTANT
GIGS THIS WEEK



1

Years & Years

Mon 28 The Ironworks,
Inverness

Tue 29 & Wed 30 O2
Academy, Glasgow

WHO: London synthpop trio named BBC's Sound Of 2015. They followed the accolade with a pile of hit singles including 'King' and 'Shine'.

WHY: Former actor Olly Alexander, the group's consummate frontman, fills the stage with an almost puppyish energy – and his crowds tend to follow suit..

WHO'S SUPPORTING:
No details yet.

TICKETS: Inverness sold out, with tickets available on secondary ticketing sites from £45; Glasgow £23 from ents24.com

2

DIIV

Fri 25 The Bongo Club,
Edinburgh

Sat 26 Riverside, Newcastle

Sun 27 Arts Club, Liverpool

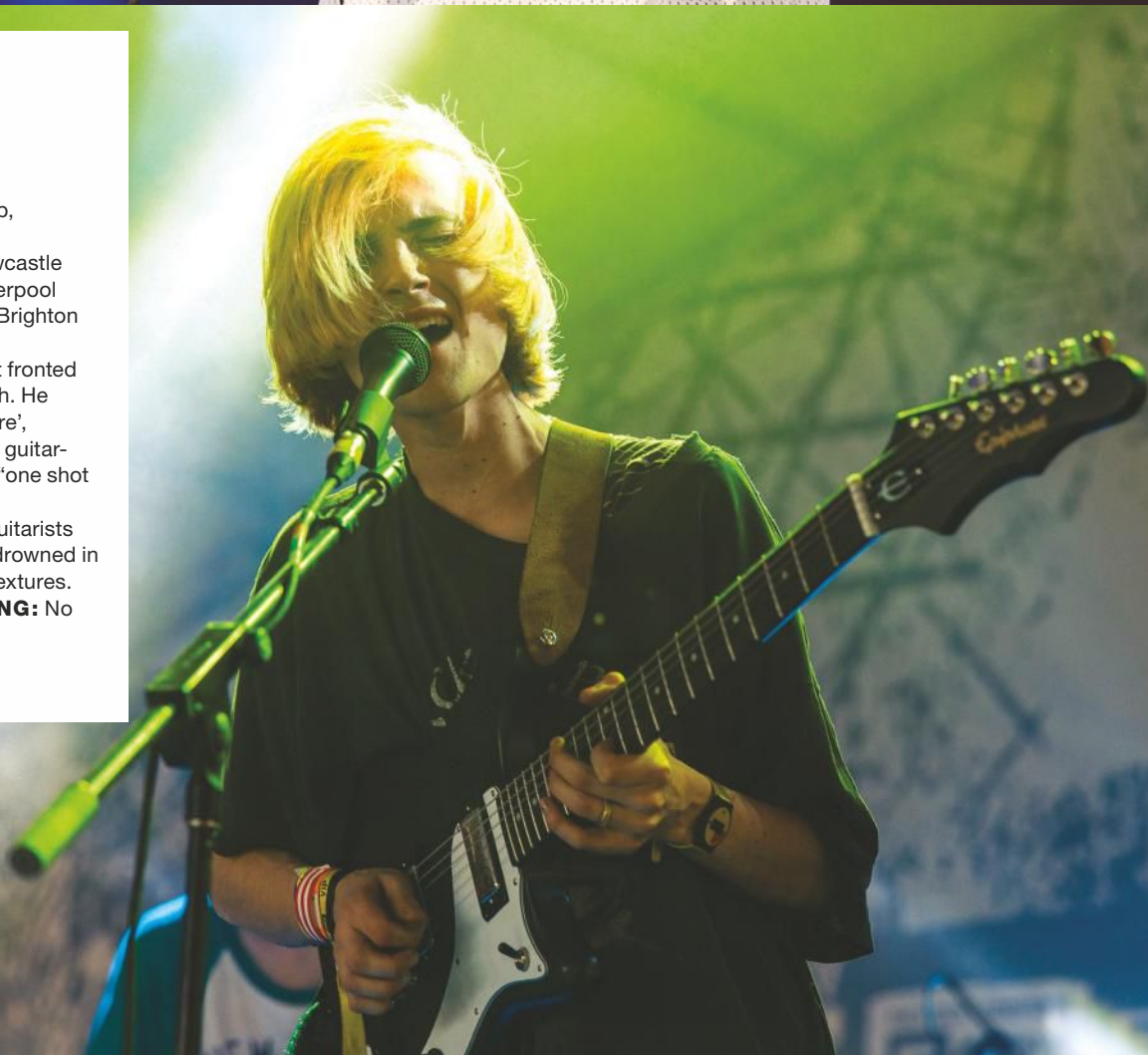
Mon 28 Concorde 2, Brighton

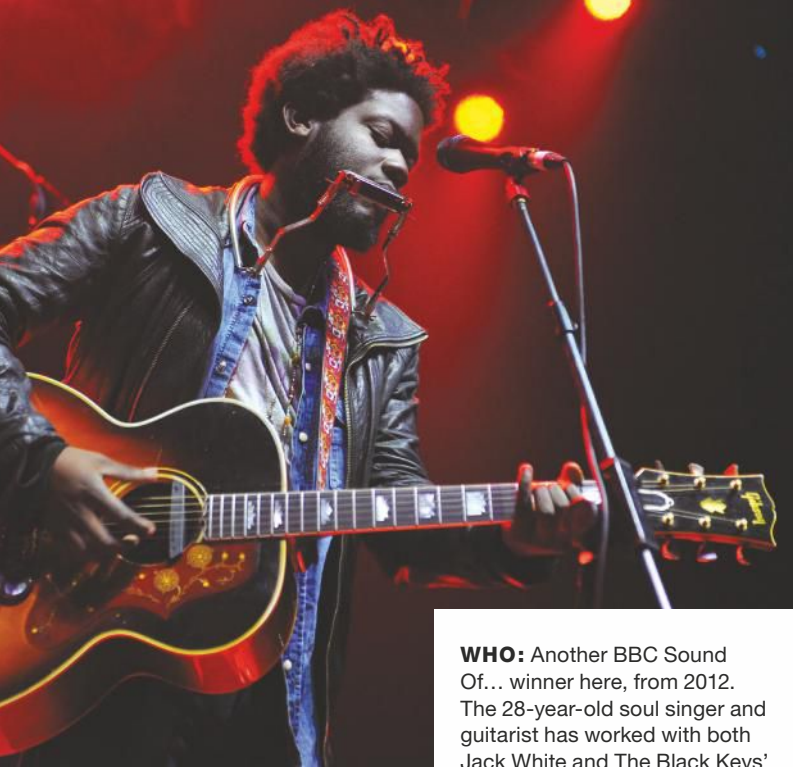
WHO: Brooklyn outfit fronted by Zachary Cole Smith. He described 'Is The Is Are', their second album of guitar-meshing indie, as his "one shot at immortality".

WHY: You like your guitarists soulful and your riffs drowned in overwhelming sonic textures.

WHO'S SUPPORTING: No details yet.

TICKETS: £12 from
nme.com/tickets





3

Michael Kiwanuka

Tue 29 Colston Hall, Bristol
Wed 30 Cadogan Hall, London

WHO: Another BBC Sound Of... winner here, from 2012. The 28-year-old soul singer and guitarist has worked with both Jack White and The Black Keys' Dan Auerbach since the release of his debut 'Home Again'.

WHY: He's got a timeless voice that revives the best of '60s soul, with modern touches.

WHO'S SUPPORTING: Ambient electro artist Stevie Parker.

TICKETS: £15.05-16.50 from ents24.com



5

Primal Scream

Tue 29 The Beach Ballroom, Aberdeen
Wed 30 The ABC, Glasgow

WHO: Scottish indie lot fronted by Bobby Gillespie. They've just released their 11th album, the brilliant 'Chaosmosis', featuring Sky Ferreira.

WHY: All the hits from their 35-year career so far, plus the best of their new one: a winning combination.

WHO'S SUPPORTING: Japanese acid-punk quartet Bo Ningen. They have long, long hair and mega riffs.

TICKETS: £27.50 from ents24.com

live

4

Alessia Cara

Fri 25 O2 Institute, Birmingham

WHO: Def Jam signing, real name Alessia Caracciolo, has been turning heads with her twee pop/R&B goodness.

WHY: The Canadian is building momentum following the recent release of her debut album – this may be the last time you get to see her in a venue of this size.

WHO'S SUPPORTING: Fellow Canadian singer/songwriter Craig Stickland.

TICKETS: £11.50 from ticketweb.co.uk



6

The Big Moon

Wed 30 Bodega, Nottingham
Thu 31 Adelphi, Hull

WHO: Palma Violets and Fat White Family were the early inspirations for this London indie four-piece fronted by Juliette Jackson.

WHY: So you can witness their brilliant indie cover of Madonna's 'Beautiful Stranger'.

WHO'S SUPPORTING: London garage-rock three-piece Virgin Kids.

TICKETS: £7.25-£7.75 from ents24.com

For tour news and live reviews go to NME.com



live

7

James Bay

Tue 29, Wed 30 & Thu 31 Eventim Apollo, London

WHO: Long-haired 25-year-old singer and guitarist who's won two BRIT Awards in as many years and probably sleeps in his beloved fedora.

WHY: Because you want to see his guitar wizardry and you like 'Hold Back The River' – that one off the radio he does.

WHO'S SUPPORTING: Piano-ballad newcomer Frances and singer-songwriter Rukhsana Merrise, who's signed to Communion.

TICKETS: £29 from nme.com/tickets

8

Gwenno

Sat 26 The Tabernacle, Talgarth

Sun 27 The Gate Arts and Community Centre, Cardiff

WHO: Former member of The Pipettes who takes inspiration from fellow Welsh legends Gruff Rhys and Cate Le Bon.

WHY: She spins feminist yarns in Welsh and Cornish and writes melodies soft enough to stuff a pillow with.

WHO'S SUPPORTING: No details yet.

TICKETS: £7-£8 from ents24.com

10

Bryson Tiller

Mon 28, Tue 29, Wed 30 KOKO, London

WHO: Kentucky's 23-year-old purveyor of "trap-soul" – which combines soulful, killer vocals with trap beats. He's Soundcloud-famous and

released his debut album – which is helpfully entitled 'TRAPSOUL' – last year.

WHY: This three-night residency is his first UK appearance ever, so it's a hot ticket.

WHO'S SUPPORTING: No details yet

TICKETS: Sold out, but available on secondary ticketing sites from £75

9

This Is The Kit

Mon 28 The Musician, Leicester

Tue 29 Electric Circus, Edinburgh

Wed 30 The Deeside Inn, Ballater

Thu 31 The Tunnels, Aberdeen

WHO: A Guy Garvey favourite, This Is The Kit is the moniker of Bristol- and Paris-based Kate Stables, whose third album 'Bashed Out' was produced by The National's Aaron Dessner. Plenty of indie cred right there.

WHY: She's a laid-back performer – her lack of theatrics makes it all about the brilliant songwriting.

WHO'S SUPPORTING: No details yet.

TICKETS: £8.80-£9.25 from ents24.com

Best of the rest

a-ha

Fri 25 Arena, Manchester
Sat 26 The O2, London
Mon 28 SSE Hydro, Glasgow
Tue 29 Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham

Armin Van Buuren

Fri 25 O2 Academy, Glasgow
Sat 26 O2 Academy Brixton, London
Sun 27 Albert Hall, Manchester

Asher Roth

Sun 27 O2 Academy, Bristol
Tue 29 The Garage, London

Black Peaks

Thu 31 Northumbria University SU, Newcastle

Blossoms

Fri 25 O2 Academy, Liverpool

Bo Ningen

Fri 25 229 The Venue, London

Catholic Action

Tue 29 Fallow, Manchester
Wed 30 Sebright Arms, London
Thu 31 Nice N Sleazy, Glasgow

Charles Bradley

Wed 30 O2 Forum, London

Chvrches

Thu 31 Royal Albert Hall, London

Disciples

Fri 25 Gorilla, Manchester
Sat 26 The Rescue Rooms, Nottingham

Dua Lipa

Thu 31 Heaven, London

Eagulls

Sat 26 Broomhall Centre, Sheffield

Ellie Goulding

Fri 25 The O2, London

Eska

Thu 31 KOKO, London

Floating Points

Sun 27 Corsica Studios, London

Bo Ningen

Gregory Porter

Thu 31 Ulster Hall, Belfast

Jess Glynne

Wed 30 Arena, Manchester

KING

Tue 29 Bush Hall, London
Thu 31 The Deaf Institute, Manchester



READER'S PICK

Samuel,
 27, East London
 @smdraper

CHVRCHES, Shura

Thu 31 Royal Albert Hall, London
 "One big name doing something special and one future big name probably falling over."

Kiran Leonard

Fri 25 Fulford Arms, York
Sun 27 Cumberland Arms, Newcastle
Wed 30 Soup Kitchen, Manchester
Thu 31 Hare & Hounds, Birmingham

Kodaline

Sat 26 The Roundhouse, London
Sun 27 Eventim Apollo, London

Låpsley

Wed 30 Heaven, London

Little Mix

Sat 26 First Direct Arena, Leeds
Sun 27 The O2, London
Mon 28 Motorpoint Arena, Cardiff
Thu 31 SSE Arena, Belfast

Little Simz

Thu 31 The Garage, Glasgow

Newton Faulkner

Wed 30 Albert Hall, Manchester
Thu 31 O2 Academy & Underground, Leeds

NZCA Lines

Thu 31 Tom Thumb Theatre, Margate

Odesza

Thu 31 The Troxy, London

Reef

Fri 25 Tramshed, Cardiff
Sat 26 Engine Rooms, Southampton

Shopping

Fri 25 The Rainbow Complex, Birmingham

Sigma

Fri 25 The Assembly, Leamington Spa
Wed 30 UEA, Norwich
Thu 31 O2 Ritz, Manchester

Teleman

Fri 25 The Westcoast, Margate

Tellison

Sat 26 Liquor, Lincoln
Sun 27 The Wardrobe, Leeds
Mon 28 The Portland Arms, Cambridge
Tue 29 Bar Bloc, Glasgow
Wed 30 The Mash House, Edinburgh
Thu 31 Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham

Todd Terje

Fri 25 The Garage, Liverpool

Wolf Alice

Sat 26, Sun 27, Mon 28 & Tue 29 O2 Forum, London



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Lisbon + Lyger
Fri 25 KOKO, London

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ALFIE CONNOR + TOM PRIOR

FRI 08 APRIL
OYA FESTIVAL VS CLUB NME
SLUTFACE + GREAT NEWS

FRI 15 APRIL
PHIL TAGGART DJ SET
+ **KASSASSIN STREET + TIBET**

£1.50 FRIDAY DRINKS*
10PM-11.30PM
BECK'S BOTTLES
ARCHERS & MIXER

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FRI 11 MAR
FRI 15 APRIL
FRI 13 MAY
FRI 17 JUNE
FRI 15 JULY
FRI 12 AUGUST

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eden project

Mon 27 June
PJ HARVEY EDEN PROJECT, CORNWALL



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The Eden Project connects us with each other and the living world. Reg. charity no. 1093070 (The Eden Trust).

Academy Events present

CLUB, THE, MAMMOTH, & ACADEMY EVENTS present

new BLOOD

THIS IS HEAD
NIGHT FLOWERS
YOUNG ASTRONAUT

LONDON, UPSTAIRS @ THE GARAGE
THURSDAY 7 APRIL

academy events presents

NOVANA
THE ULTIMATE NIRVANA TRIBUTE

CELEBRATING THE
25TH ANNIVERSARY OF
"NEVERMIND"

SAT 23 APR LONDON The Garage
SAT 07 MAY NEWCASTLE O₂ Academy2
SAT 21 MAY SHEFFIELD O₂ Academy2
FRI 27 MAY OXFORD O₂ Academy2
SAT 28 MAY LIVERPOOL O₂ Academy2
SAT 03 JUNE BIRMINGHAM O₂ Academy3

NOVANA.CO.UK

ACADEMY EVENTS AND FUTURE PERFECT presents

THE SUPERSKAS
THE ULTIMATE TRIBUTE
TO SKA

PLUS SPECIAL GUESTS

SATURDAY 9th APRIL 2016
O₂ ACADEMY3 BIRMINGHAM

30th ANNIVERSARY TOUR

THE WONDER STUFF
EST. 1986

THE WEDDING PRESENT

THE LOTTERY WINNERS.

FRI 25th MARCH
NEWCASTLE O₂ ACADEMY

SAT 26th MARCH
LEEDS O₂ ACADEMY

SAT 2nd APRIL
NOTTINGHAM ROCK CITY

Academy Events & Friends present
by arrangement with Primary Talent International

THE HOSTS

MAY 2016

18 HULL Adelphi
19 LONDON The Garage
20 BIRMINGHAM The Flapper
22 LEEDS Oporto
23 MANCHESTER Gullivers
24 NEWCASTLE Think Tank
25 GLASGOW Broadcast
26 SHEFFIELD Leadmill
27 LEICESTER Soundhouse

'Moon' out on Fierce Panda Records 29th April
www.facebook.com/thehosts

ACADEMY EVENTS AND FRIENDS PRESENT
IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE LOCAL BOOKING

EMMA KOOTLOP
IN SEARCH OF HARPERFIELD

WED 11 MAY	THE CRESCENT	YORK
THU 12 MAY	O ₂ ACADEMY2	NEWCASTLE
FRI 13 MAY	SOUP KITCHEN	MANCHESTER
MON 16 MAY	THE MOON CLUB	CARDIFF
TUE 17 MAY	THE MUSICIAN	LEICESTER
WED 18 MAY	O ₂ ACADEMY3	BIRMINGHAM
THU 19 MAY	ARTS CLUB (THE LOFT)	LIVERPOOL
FRI 20 MAY	LAMPLIGHT CLUB	SHEFFIELD
SAT 21 MAY	THE THEATRE ROYAL	DUMFRIES
WED 25 MAY	O ₂ ACADEMY2 ISLINGTON	LONDON
THU 26 MAY	O ₂ ACADEMY2	OXFORD
FRI 27 MAY	ARDEN ROAD SOCIAL CLUB	HALIFAX

academy events presents

Endkadenz VERDENA
EUROPEAN TOUR 2016

THURSDAY 19 MAY - LONDON, THE GARAGE

Motorpsycho
PLUS SPECIAL GUESTS
MERCUTIO

WEDNESDAY 4th MAY 2016
LONDON, THE GARAGE

MOTORPSYCHO.NO
THEGARAGEHIGHBURY.COM

REFUSED

PLUS SPECIAL GUEST
ANNA VON HAUSWOLFF

SATURDAY 26th MARCH 2016
O₂ INSTITUTE BIRMINGHAM

An ACADEMY EVENTS presentation by arrangement with X-RAY

FREEDOM

academy events presents

SPACE

GIVE ME YOUR FUTURE
Tour 2016

FEMALE OF THE SPECIES - NEIGHBOURHOOD - AVENGING ANGELS

APRIL

07 SOUTHAMPTON
THE BROOK
08 BOURNEMOUTH
OLD FIRE STATION
15 OXFORD O₂ ACADEMY2
16 BRIGHTON HAUNT
22 INVERNESS IRONWORKS
29 NEWCASTLE O₂ ACADEMY2
30 STOCKTON ARC

MAY

21 BIRMINGHAM
O₂ ACADEMY2
28 LEICESTER THE SCHOLAR
@ O₂ ACADEMY
29 LONDON 100 CLUB
JUNE
10 ST. HELENS CITADEL
11 STOKE EXCHANGE
AUGUST
27 CARDIFF CLUBB IFOR BACH

SPACETHEBAND.CO.UK

academy events presents

30th Anniversary Tour 2016

THE SMYTHS
The Queen Is Dead

Sat 26 March
LIVERPOOL
O₂ Academy2

Sat 7 May
GLASGOW
O₂ ABC2

Fri 13 May
SHEFFIELD
O₂ Academy2

Fri 20 May
BIRMINGHAM
O₂ Academy2

Fri 27 May
NEWCASTLE
O₂ Academy2

Fri 23 September
BRISTOL
O₂ Academy

Fri 7 October
LEICESTER
O₂ Academy

Fri 14 October
BOURNEMOUTH
Old Fire Station

Sat 15 October
OXFORD
O₂ Academy2

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XINOBI LIVE • THROES + THE SHINE

RADINHEAD

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detailed chronicle of the music and musicians we love.



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SOUNDTRACK OF MY LIFE

Lianne La Havas

South London singer-songwriter

The song I can't get out of my head

THUNDERCAT
Them Changes

"Thundercat's kind of eccentric, but he's unashamedly himself. He plays an amazing, massive bass and sings. I love the groove on this track. It's wonky in all the right ways."



The song I wish I'd written

RADIOHEAD

Weird Fishes/Arpeggi

"I think 'In Rainbows' is maybe one of the best albums ever made. I'll never forget the first time I heard it – it's so atmospheric. I just felt completely in my own world. It came on shuffle when I was walking to Tesco from my flat and it looked like it was about to rain. The song came on and I was like, 'What the hell!'"

The first song I remember hearing

CHARLES AND EDDIE
Would I Lie To You

"My grandfather used to put on Capital Gold FM really low and keep it on all night. I remember hearing some of the most amazing songs of my life on that station. It felt warm – and it still feels that way now that I'm an adult."

The first song I fell in love with

B*WITCHED
Blame It On The Weatherman

"I had this song on repeat all the time. I thought the lead singer had an amazing voice. I was getting into singing around the age of eight and it was one I could belt out and it felt amazing to sing."

The first album I bought

EMINEM

The Marshall Mathers LP

"I loved the way he rapped, I loved the way he looked, I loved knowing how controversial his lyrics were. I felt proud of the Parental Advisory sticker on the album! Because I wasn't supposed to listen to it, I felt even more connected to it."

The song that made me want to make music

INDIA.ARIE

Video

"If I could imagine the perfect voice, it's somewhere between hers and Lauryn Hill's. But I felt like India's voice was closer to the way that I wanted to sound – it was so low and gravelly and gorgeous. I met her once and she was amazing."

The song I can no longer listen to

DRAKE

Hotline Bling

"I've 'Hotline Bling'-ed myself to oblivion! I sang it with The Roots at their Roots Jam during Grammy week. It was in the style of a Curtis Mayfield tune. It was a lot of fun, but since then I've got to give myself a 'Hotline Bling' break."



The song I want played at my funeral

PAUL SIMON

I Know What I Know

"If I have to choose – and I don't ever want to talk about this again ever – it would be 'I Know What I Know' from 'Graceland'. I love it. It gets me hopping around – so it might have the power to revive the deceased!"

Lianne La Havas plays LeeFest in Kent, July 28-31



The wisdom of the NME archives

THIS WEEK

DAMON ALBARN

Blur frontman

March 28, 1992

"Maybe one of our weaknesses is that we're too clever. Fundamental, hormonal-titillating rock fills halls. But it takes a f***k of a lot more intelligence to be a pop group."



Go to NME.com for more Soundtracks