

REVIEW OF THE YEAR ISSUE

NME

25 NOVEMBER 2016 / FREE EVERY FRIDAY

MUSIC
FILM
STYLE

NME ALBUM OF THE YEAR

THE 1975



LUBRICATION



COOLS AND



SHIELDS

WHILE YOU SHAVE



CHILL

Fusion
PROSHIELD

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THE BEST A MAN CAN GET™

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NME

Hello...



2016 WILL BE remembered for all the wrong reasons. The deaths of Bowie and Prince, the terrifying mainstreaming of far-right politics, the Mannequin Challenge...

but from a new music perspective, it's been incredible, with brilliant contributions from some of the biggest and most exciting artists of our time – from Lady Gaga and Radiohead to Metallica, Drake and Rihanna.

Their efforts reveal not only that the album format is fighting fit, but that it's being pushed in exciting new directions, too. Whether that's PJ Harvey recording hers in front of an audience like a work of performance art, Beyoncé releasing the politically charged 'Lemonade' as a 'visual album' or Kanye West redefining the very idea of an album by constantly tweaking 'The Life Of Pablo' after its release.

Topping this year's *NME* Album Of The Year list, thanks to its audacious scale, confident blend of genres and abundance of amazing tunes is 'I Like It When You Sleep, For You Are So Beautiful Yet So Unaware Of It' by The 1975. By receiving the honour, they join a list of artists that includes Arctic Monkeys, De La Soul, Björk and Nirvana. They're in good company, and they deserve to be there.

MIKE WILLIAMS
Editor-in-Chief
@itsmikelike

An interview with
Anne-Marie **p36**

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THE NME REVIEW OF THE YEAR

The best albums. The best tracks. The best films. The best TV shows. Featuring: Kanye West, Stranger Things, Oasis, Charli XCX, Girls, Danny Brown, Broad City, Chance The Rapper and absolutely loads more. Proof that if you ignore all the political stuff, it's actually been an amazing year

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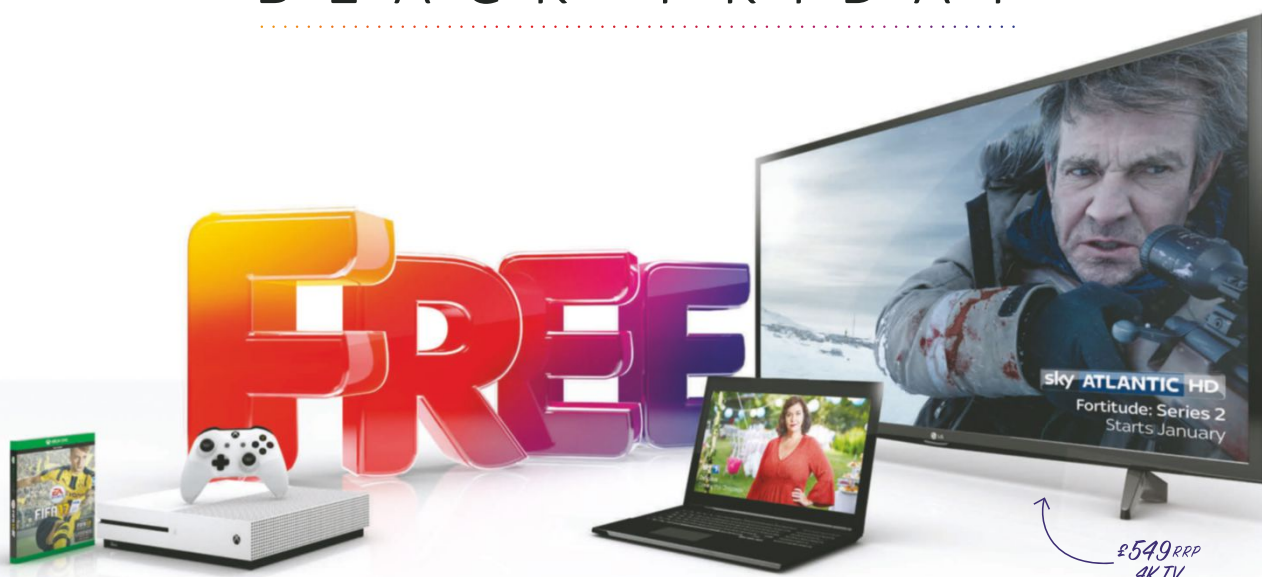
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Reward Offer: Subject to status. Offer available to new Sky customers only. Offer not available to existing Sky Broadband customers joining Sky TV. We reserve the right to arrange collection of additional reward/incentive items for which the customer is not eligible. All rewards must be claimed at sky.com/claim within 90 days of service being activated. Rewards will be sent up to 90 days after redemption. Not available with any other offer unless stated. One reward per household. See sky.com/incentives for further terms. **43" Ultra HD LG TV/Xbox One S/32" LG TV/Lenovo Laptop:** Model may vary. Content image size has been increased. Availability subject to stock. £3.50 delivery charge for Lenovo Laptop and Xbox One S. £5.50 delivery charge for 32" LG TV. £9.95 delivery charge for 43" UHD TV. **Box Sets:** Selection of shows/series available & varies each month. **Sky Q 2TB box:** Reduced standard set-up fee £15 for new Sky TV customers until 4 December 2016. (Normally £60). 1.7TB personal storage. 300GB reserved by Sky for other uses. **Sky Q 1TB box:** 700GB personal storage. 300GB reserved by Sky for other uses. **Sky Q Multiscreen:** £12 extra per month. Requires Sky Q 2TB box, Sky TV and Sky Q Multiscreen subscriptions, Sky Q app and compatible tablet (sky.com/SkyQdevices) connected to home broadband. **In home:** We'll lend you one Sky Q Mini per extra TV, at no cost. Watch recordings included in your Sky Q TV channel pack and most free-to-air channels. See sky.com/skyqchannels for more information. Content from up to two Sky Q Mini boxes can be watched concurrently. **Ultra-HD:** Ultra HD not available on Sky Q Mini boxes or Sky Q 1TB box. **General:** New 12 month minimum subscription. Content depends on Sky Q subscription. Prices may go up during your contract. Non-standard set-up may cost extra. Connect to TV using HDMI cable. You own the Sky dish. Prices may vary if you live in a flat. You must get any consents required (e.g. landlord's). Prices for Direct Debit payments only. Continuous debit/credit card mandate costs 30p pm. UK, Channel Islands and Isle of Man residential customers only. Further terms apply. Correct at 1 November 2016.

AGENDA

WHAT EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT THIS WEEK

Pray for Kanye

**The rapper has been hospitalised
“for his own health and safety”**

KANYE WEST IS SAID TO BE SUFFERING from “severe sleep deprivation”. NBC News reported on Tuesday that West was under observation at a Los Angeles hospital after police responded to a medical welfare call.

“Multiple authorities familiar with the case” said this was “for his own health and safety”. At the time of press, there were no further updates.

West has previously addressed his mental health. On the track ‘FML’ he raps: “*You ain’t never seen nothing crazier than / This n***a when he off his Lexapro*”. Lexapro is commonly used as an antidepressant.

The build-up to the breakdown

MONDAY, NOV 14

News emerged that West had been “trading ideas” with Will Ferrell about turning his life story into a movie. A “friend” of West told the *Daily Star*: “He’s been thinking about this for a long, long time and he’s been trading ideas with Will. Rather than take himself too seriously, he feels it has to be a comedy and not a preachy film.”

THURSDAY, NOV 17

West shocks the crowd at his San Jose show by declaring: “If I would have voted, I would’ve voted on Trump,” adding, “that don’t mean that I don’t think that black lives matter. That don’t mean I don’t think that I’m a believer in women’s rights. That don’t mean I don’t believe in gay marriage. That don’t mean that I don’t believe in these things because that was the guy I would’ve voted for.” Twitter blew up.

SATURDAY, NOV 19

At the start of November, West had cut short a gig in Inglewood, California, stating, “I can’t let you have a show where I can’t perform for you. I’ll give everyone a refund. I’ll do better next time.” When he returned, though, he did a lot worse. In Sacramento he ranted about Beyoncé hurting him and Jay Z assassinating him, adding: “F**k winning! F**k being cool! F**k all that!”

SUNDAY, NOV 20

West posted 99 largely out-of-focus photos of pages from Maison Margiela lookbooks, past and present.

MONDAY, NOV 21

Cancelled the remainder of the Saint Pablo tour.

TUESDAY, NOV 22

Hospitalised.

Red nose day

Shawn Crahan – AKA Slipknot's Clown – talks killer clowns and his directorial debut

Clown, you've directed a film, *Officer Downe*. How did that happen?

"I was introduced to a producer, Skip Williamson, who's partly responsible for the *Underworld* and *Crank* movies. We got a coffee and had a heavy, surreal 15-minute conversation about life, and he looked at me and said, 'Clown, you're going to direct a movie called *Officer Downe*.' He sent me over the graphic novel. I looked at the first page and said, 'I'm in.'"

You cast your bandmate Corey Taylor in it...

"I did! He's playing a character called Headcase Harry, who's awesome. Taylor wants to act, I believe, and he nailed it. His bits are some of my favourite parts of the movie."

Clowns have been in the news lately. Killer clowns. As a clown, what do you make of it?

"A clown chasing kids – that's just whatever. That's media stuff. What people need to think about are the clowns that are behind fences. You're in an apartment building, looking out, and there's a clown behind a fence in the woods, just off your property, looking at you. That's serious s**t. Some clown just sitting for three minutes staring at you? That's concerning."

"Clowns pull you out of reality"

Are clowns just inherently scary?

"People have a hard time with clowns because they're everything at once. People can't handle that much colour. People are brainwashed to stay in between the lines – go when it says green, have your tea at teatime. But clowns, they don't care. They'll pull you out of reality, man... into reality."

Director Crahan with the cast of *Officer Downe*



Slipknot's last album was in 2014 – what are the plans for the next one?

"We've been on everyone else's schedule for 20 years and I'm tired of that s**t. I wanna write music, because I'm in Slipknot, but I don't want to be told how long I need to write for or what I need to do. Jim [Root, guitar] and I are going to start up in February and embark upon a masterpiece. We're going to dig deep into the canvas. It's been a long time since we've been in practice room where we're just jamming and going for dreams and locking everyone out. I just wanna make art, and everything else can suck it."

***Officer Downe* is in cinemas and on demand now**

Crahan as his alter ego, on stage with Slipknot



6

Number of times Green Day yelled, "No Trump! No KKK! No fascist USA!" in their AMA performance.



1,000,000

Streams of Leonard Cohen's 'Hallelujah' logged on the night he passed away.



16

Toy instruments Metallica and The Roots used to perform 'Enter Sandman' on *The Tonight Show*.



£30

Cost of a University Of Glasgow course entitled 'D'oh! The Simpsons Introduce Philosophy'.

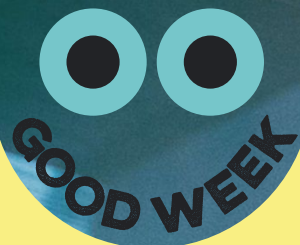
Last W33K IN NUMBERS

**MONT
BLANC**



LEGEND
THE FRAGRANCE FOR MEN





IGGY AZALEA

Said she has an “award-winning vagina” after becoming *GQ Australia*’s ‘Woman of the Year’.



DRAKE

Went viral yet again after he mimed ridiculously to Taylor Swift’s ‘Bad Blood’ in an Apple advert.



MARK ZUCKERBERG

Facing claims that Donald Trump’s election win was helped by fake news stories circulated via Facebook.



GIGI HADID

Apologised for her impersonation of Melania Trump at the AMAs. Fake Slovenian accents: not cool.



Brexit? Trump? Pah!

Voting for the VO5 NME Awards 2017 is now open

NEXT YEAR, ON WEDNESDAY February 15, the VO5 NME Awards 2017 will take over O2 Academy Brixton for a night of debauchery and devilment. Cast your vote for as many of the below categories as you fancy, safe in the knowledge that whoever the winners are, they’re unlikely to spark the end of human civilisation as we know it.





Last year Bring Me The Horizon's Oli Sykes gave Chris Martin a table dance

The categories

BEST BRITISH BAND

Supported by  **ZIG-ZAG**

BEST BRITISH FEMALE ARTIST

BEST BRITISH MALE ARTIST
Supported by  **PILOT**

BEST INTERNATIONAL BAND

Supported by *Austin*

BEST INTERNATIONAL FEMALE ARTIST

Supported by  **VO5**

BEST INTERNATIONAL MALE ARTIST

Supported by  **VO5**

BEST NEW ARTIST

BEST LIVE BAND

BEST ALBUM

BEST TRACK

BEST MUSIC VIDEO

BEST RE-ISSUE

BEST FESTIVAL

BEST SMALL FESTIVAL

BEST FESTIVAL HEADLINER

MUSIC MOMENT OF THE YEAR

BEST FILM

BEST MUSIC FILM

BEST TV SERIES

BEST BOOK

HERO OF THE YEAR

VILLAIN OF THE YEAR

WORST BAND

The big questions

How do I vote?

Go here: awards.NME.com

How do I buy tickets to the VO5 NME Awards 2017?

Go here: NME.com/tickets.
Early bird tickets are on sale now, at the discount price of £24.99, until December 6.

THE KOOKS

PLUS GUESTS

THE
BEST
OF



Fri 21 Apr
Sat 22 Apr
Mon 24 Apr
Tue 25 Apr
Thu 27 Apr
Fri 28 Apr
Sat 29 Apr
Mon 01 May

Manchester Academy
Birmingham O2 Academy
Scunthorpe Baths Hall
Leeds O2 Academy
Newcastle O2 Academy
Glasgow O2 Academy
Liverpool Olympia
Nottingham Rock City

Tue 02 May
Thu 04 May
Fri 05 May
Sat 06 May
Mon 08 May
Tue 09 May
Thu 11 May
Fri 12 May

Bristol Colston Hall
Southampton O2 Guildhall
Plymouth Pavilions
Bournemouth O2 Academy
Norwich UEA
Cambridge Corn Exchange
Leicester De Montfort Hall
Southend Cliffs Pavilion

Sat 13 May • London Alexandra Palace

Gigsandtours.com Ticketmaster.co.uk

TICKETS ON SALE 9AM FRIDAY 25 NOVEMBER

thekooks.com [thekooksmusic](https://www.facebook.com/thekooksmusic) [thekooksofficial](https://www.facebook.com/thekooksofficial)

An SJM Concerts presentation by arrangement with 13 Artists & Starwood Management

ON THE RECORD



THIS WEEK

A woman's place is in the mosh pit

Last week, Metallica launched their new album, 'Hardwired... To Self-Destruct', at an unusually intimate show at London's House Of Vans. For a band normally found playing stadiums and headlining massive festivals, a show in an 850-capacity underground vault is utterly and totally unmissable.

I was only able to lay my hands on one ticket, so headed off to the venue alone. Upon arrival I began to weave my way through the testosterone-heavy crowd in order to get a better view. During my mission I encountered that annoying guy who seems to be at every concert ever – the guy who's still surprised to find that women have been allowed to leave their homes unaccompanied and enjoy something other than cooking anaemic lasagne for their grumpy husband. Let's call him Patronising Gig Bloke.

Sadly, I found myself standing right next to Patronising Gig Bloke, who evidently assumed that because I am a woman, and

because I was dressed a bit like Dolly Parton (red gingham shirt – check; cowboy boots – check), I must have accidentally got lost on my way to the south London rodeo. "You might need to watch yourself, love. Things might get a bit crazy when the metalheads kick off," he offered, unhelpfully. "It's alright, I have seen live music before," I responded tersely. And if you're thinking he was just being friendly, then ask yourself if he would have said the same thing to a man. Because he wouldn't. Hello, sexism. I'm sure Patronising Gig Bloke won't like it, but of course women belong down the front and in the mosh just as much as the territorial dudes.

There aren't many places

"There aren't many places I feel truly comfortable, but the front of a gig is one of them"

BIG OPINIONS. NO FILTER.

Yes to Metallica in an intimate setting. No to patronising dudes



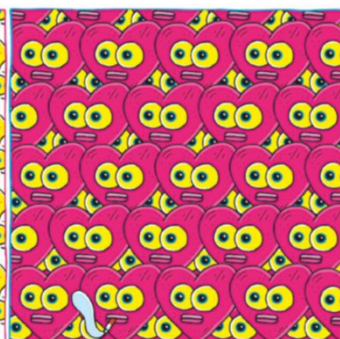
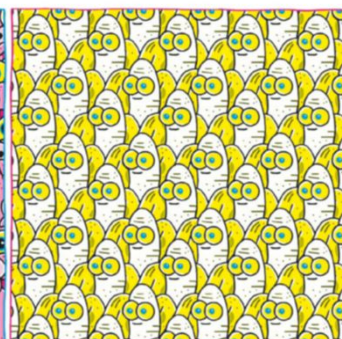
where I feel truly comfortable, but the front of a gig is one of them. I've lost shoes in mosh pits at Brixton Academy (RIP purple suede Vans, c. 2004), left the Kentish Town Forum drenched in sweat – my own and other people's – been on the receiving end of pints flung through the air at Reading Festival, crowd surfed at the dearly departed Astoria and stood in front of so many speakers that tinnitus is inevitable.

Although the same can't be said for pop and indie shows, there are certain kinds of gigs where the crowd is overwhelmingly male. Last year, a female friend and

I went to see stoner metal band Om, known for their epic sets, at the Electric Ballroom. We went to top up our drinks halfway through the show and as we walked through the crowd to the bar, a 40-something man exclaimed, with a chuckle: "I knew they wouldn't get it!" Pal, I'm a professional music journalist, I probably know more about that music than you ever will. Though, to be fair, you probably know far more about computer programming and living with your mum, so I suppose that makes us even. @leoniemaycooper

WORDS: LEONIE COOPER. PHOTOS: ROSS HALFIN

SAM TAYLOR'S SLIME ZONE: SUPER CUTE FRIENDS



AMAZING SAVINGS THIS BLACK FRIDAY WEEKEND

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ears



WHAT HI-FI?



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DESIGN
AWARD
2016



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50 speakers with Ultimate Ears new PartyUp app feature

amazon

Currys

PCWorld

John Lewis

And other leading retailers

Starts Friday November 25th ends Monday November 28th 2016. Applicable to Ultimate Ears Roll 2, Boom 2 and Megaboom.
Subject to stock availability at participating retailers. Terms and conditions apply.

EATS & BEATS

BECAUSE YOU CAN'T ROCK OUT ON AN EMPTY STOMACH

THIS WEEK

Food trends of the year

Hot stuff, melty stuff, sour stuff, stuff from the sea and stuff delivered straight to your door



HARD TO LIKE = COOL AS HELL

SOUR BEER

How did hipsters stay one step ahead of the boozing masses with Blue Moons at four for a fiver in Asda? The answer: sour beer. It was sharp and complex enough to deter the dilettantes, but palatable enough to be strangely addictive – once your taste buds recalibrated themselves, anyway. Sour beer newbie? Start off with Buxton Brewery's Far Skyline (zingingly limey), Partizan Brewing's Cuvée Maxine (a peppery session beer) or Boon Brewery's Geuze Boon (no messing two-fisted sourness).

Buy a mixed case:

£49.95, beergonzo.co.uk



UP YOURS, PAPA JOHN'S

DELIVEROO

Deliveroo has changed the takeaway game forever. No longer limited to standard-issue fare – floppy pizzas or MSG-clogged noodles – we're now free to sit on our arses and order off the menu from any local/local-ish eaterie that's signed up to the scheme. You want sushi, nachos, jerk chicken, a Moroccan meatball tagine? Then you've got it. Living in the future: sometimes it's actually alright. **Order nosh near you:** deliveroo.co.uk

MOLTEN CHILLI LAVA FOR ALL

SRIRACHA

"Hipster Tabasco" was everywhere in 2016: smothering Brussels sprouts in upscale restaurants, psyching out other condiments at your dad's BBQ, sloshing around in titchy bottle key chains bought at Urban Outfitters. And when McDonald's announced in July it was making Sriracha-laced "Awesome Sauce" for Big Macs, the tipping point had been well and truly reached.

Buy a bottle: £2.50, tesco.com



GLOOPY MANNA FROM HEAVEN

RACLETTE

Raclette is a semi-hard Swiss cheese that magically transforms into a life-saving, game-changing substance when melted then scraped over potatoes, meats, mushrooms... You could pour it on to a manky tea towel and it'd taste pretty good. Foodies went mad for it in spring, gorged on it all summer long, then wondered why their jeans no longer fitted come autumn. But it was worth it.

Buy a wedge: \$19.90, deliziedellefate.com



THE NEW SUPERFOOD DON

SEAWEED

Kale had a good run, but 2016 was seaweed's year. Sales rocketed by 125 per cent when Jamie Oliver credited adding seaweed to his diet as a key factor behind his dramatic weight loss, and by spring the sustainable, nutritious and easily harvestable crop was sneaking into everything from quinoa salads to post-workout shakes. And if you live on the coast, you can get in on the algae-munching action for free by simply heading down the beach and rifling around a bit.

Get some Yutaka Wakame

Dried Seaweed: £1.69, japancentre.com





Black Friday*

***Includes Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.**

This year, we're kicking off Black Friday early.
With great offers from Thursday all the way to Wednesday.
We have the latest phones.
And they're all unlocked, ready for any SIM.

Come take a look at **giffgaff.com**



giffgaff

the mobile
network
run by you

Terms apply

THINGS WE LIKE

THIS WEEK'S OBJECTS OF DESIRE



Head first

Contains a remastered copy of Cypress Hill's 1991 debut. **£59.99** rapandsoulmailorder.com



Indie ink

Artist John Riordan's *Sound And Vision* is a great-looking illustrated guide to cult music. **£14.99** amazon.co.uk



Fringe benefits

Make like Stevie Nicks in this amazing, handmade fringed top. **£35** velvetcave.co.uk



Tree-mendous

Freya is booze made from sustainable birch sap. Try it with tonic. **£34** freyaspirit.com



Put a ring on it

Be as nasty as you wanna be with this top Trump-bashing ring. **£46.58** snashjewelry.com



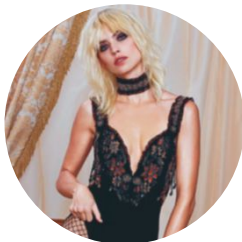
Picture this

Supersonic: The Oasis Photographs features shots by the band's official snapper. **£75** musicroom.com



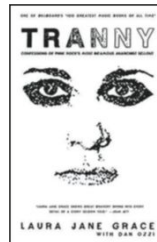
Monday blues

This sweet sweatshirt will keep the winter chill at bay. **£70** cheapmonday.com



Loved up

Courtney Love's second collab with Nasty Gal includes this bodysuit. **£137** nastygal.com



Punk literature

Laura Jane Grace of punk band Against Me! has penned a must-read memoir. **£18.05** amazon.co.uk



Wrecking ball

This new rock doc is all about influential NOFX label Fat Wreck Chords. **£12** afatwreck.com



Pig out

An advent calendar with a difference – this one's filled with posh pork scratchings. **£12.50** snafflingpig.co.uk



Burn baby burn

Divinely scented soy candles, handmade with love in east London. **£12** ohros.com



Godfather garms

Skeptat himself has his very own Wiley shirt from the ace Grime Tees guys. **£29.95** grimetees.co.uk



Oh crumbs

Volume 1 of cartoonist Robert Crumb's sketchbook features his controversial 1960s work. **£27.99** taschen.com

I'VE GOT
FRIXION

I'VE GOT THE
POWER

#HAPPYWRITING



FRIXION



YOUR TOWN. YOUR MUSIC. YOUR STYLE

What's ON your Headphones?

THIS WEEK

Kendal



< JESSICA TAYLOR

19, supermarket worker

Listening to:
THE HIVES
Walk Idiot Walk
"I prefer an upbeat tempo to slower music."

Wearing: Zara coat, Topshop overall, Doctor Martens shoes.
Best thing about Kendal: "Baba Ganoush serves excellent food."

"Baba Ganoush serves excellent food"



BEN GRENVILLE >

21, trader

Listening to:
DEATHSTARS
No Light To Shun
"They've got such a great sound."

Wearing: Burton shirt, homemade beanie.
Best thing about Kendal: "The Kitten And The Goat is a really great craft shop."



< BRANDON MOSS

18, student

Listening to:
THE WEEKND
Often
"I can't stop listening to it!"

Wearing: Topman top and jeans, Nike jumper.
Best thing about Kendal: "There's a great selection of local pubs."

PHOTOS: DAVID WALA

OLIVIA KOREN >

19, student

Listening to:
HIGHLY SUSPECT
Seratonica
"They were brilliant at Leeds Festival."

Wearing: Vintage shirt, trousers from TK Maxx.
Best thing about Kendal: "The Abbot Hall Art Gallery is pretty cool."



Albums Albums Albums of the year

Pop, rock, punk, hip-hop, grime, indie, R&B. All the hits!



20

LADY GAGA / JOANNE



Besttrack

ANGEL DOWN

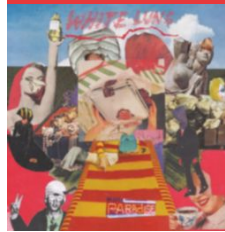
The album's closing track was a gut-wrenching Americana hymn to the death of Trayvon Martin and of feeling "lost in the age of the social".

Lady Gaga JOANNE

Following the conceptual excesses of 2013's 'Artpop', Lady Gaga's fourth album neither looked nor sounded much like a Lady Gaga album at all. Instead, for all its starry cast of A-list collaborators, 'Joanne' felt more like the first Stefani Germanotta album: a more personal, stripped-back, soft-rock turn that revealed much about the woman behind the meat couture and Mother Monster persona. Gaga's diva impulses were given free rein on tracks like 'Perfect Illusion' and 'Come To Mama', but it was 'Joanne's' quieter, more introspective moments that hit hardest and lingered longest.

18

19



HOLE
Celebrity Skin
Courtney Love and co's shameless break into the mainstream made for one of Hole's most potent releases.

White Lung PARADISE

Fronted by the inimitable Mish Way – think riot-grrrl-era Courtney Love meets classy cultural commentator Joan Didion – cult LA/Vancouver punk act White Lung's fourth album might have been their most mainstream yet, but it was still as brutal as a Saturday night out in a suburban Wetherspoon's. Sure, there were power ballad-leaning love songs, but there were also tracks about serial killers, including Fred and Rose West. It also featured one of the year's most evocative lyrics in the yelped "I will give birth in a trailerrrr" that punctuated the corrosive 'Kiss Me When I Bleed'.



18



Tegan And Sara LOVE YOU TO DEATH

Tegan and Sara Quin's metamorphosis from indie darlings to sugar-coated synth-pop queens was sealed by their eighth album. It was an exercise in smart, savvy, adult-oriented pop that didn't compromise the Canadian siblings' roots or LGBTQ identity: the brilliant 'BWU' addressed gay marriage, while 'Boyfriend' declared, "I don't want to be your secret any more". Tegan And Sara are *nobody's* secret any more.

FOR FANS OF

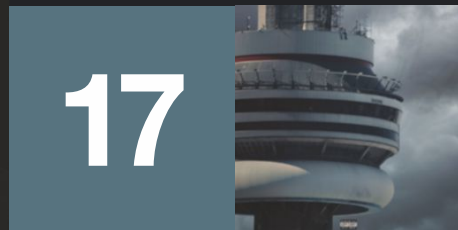


CARLY RAE
JEPSEN



SAD13

17



Drake VIEWS

Besttrack

ONE DANCE

It's hard to deny the extreme catchiness of 'One Dance', which spent a massive 15 weeks at Number One.

Drake's fourth full-length album was yet again about how tough it is being him, but done via the medium of total ruddy bangers. There was song of the summer 'One Dance', the Rihanna-featuring casual dancehall of 'Too Good', outrageously vibey 'Controlla'... oh, and 'Hotline Bling' as a sneaky bonus track. Canada's King of Complaining really came up with the party goods.

16



Danny Brown ATROCITY EXHIBITION

Teeth-grinding highs, gruesome comedowns, desperate decadence: the fifth album from Detroit rapper Danny Brown was not only 2016's most entertaining hip-hop release, it was also the most disturbing. On the surface it was business as usual, with Brown delivering profane, dexterous rhymes over eccentric beats that'd flummox the flows of most rappers. But repeated listens revealed the widening cracks in his lunatic-goon persona, until it was clear you were listening to a man enduring a nervous breakdown.

FOR FANS OF



OUTKAST

FUTURE

15

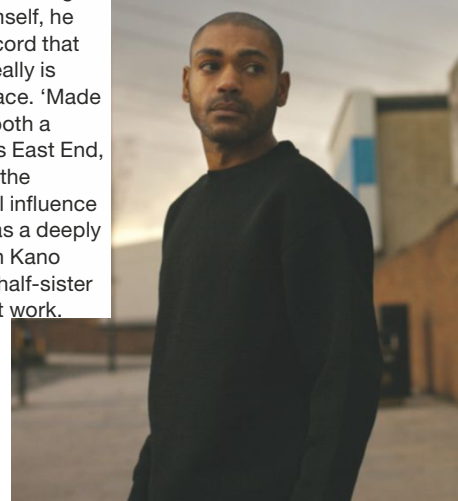


Kano MADE IN THE MANOR

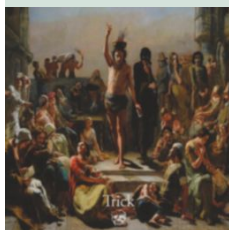
It starts with a bang. After six years out of the game, Kano announced his return to grime with the explosive heavy metal riffs of 'Hail'. Having suitably reintroduced himself, he proceeded to unveil a record that lived up to the name: it really is a record of a time and place. 'Made In The Manor' works as both a social history of London's East End, taking in block parties in the sunshine and the musical influence of D Double E, and also as a deeply personal record, as when Kano describes his estranged half-sister on 'Little Sis'. A master at work.

STRANGE & TRUE

Damon Albarn features on 'Made In The Manor'. The pair first worked together in 2010, when Kano appeared on Gorillaz track 'White Flag'.



14



Jamie T TRICK

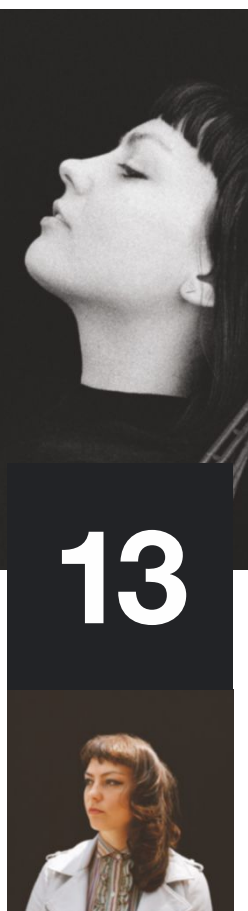
After a five-year hiatus, Jamie T returned from the wilderness in 2014 with the exceptional 'Carry On The Grudge'. Imagine our surprise, then, when two years later he put out another album, and one that was even better than the last. Seamlessly fusing together Jamie's punk, rap and pop influences, 'Trick' was as charismatic as its creator. Storytelling songs like the aggy 'Solomon Eagle' sat snugly alongside emotive balladry ('Sign Of The Times') and ludicrously odd singalongs ('Drone Strike'), as well as shameless tributes to The Clash ('Tescoland'). A decade into his career, Jamie proved himself to be as exciting as ever.



RANCID
And Out Come The Wolves
This 1995 punk rock classic has

long had an impact on Jamie T's work. The kind of thing mosh pits were made for.

13



Angel Olsen MY WOMAN

Missouri-born Angel Olsen shook off the shackles of the trad 'winsome singer-songwriter' tag with her devastating third album. The former backing singer for folk mainstay Bonnie 'Prince' Billy showed herself to be more than strummed guitars and countrified emoting. Here, she thrashed her way through the guttural power pop of 'Shut Up Kiss Me', before getting to grips with psychedelic glam-rock, epic Fleetwood Mac-style outpourings, '60s girl group sass and cosmic soul, all laced with her stunning, totally unique vocal.

Best track

'SHUT UP KISS ME'

Never has being solicited for a snog sounded so vital. As passionate as they come.

12



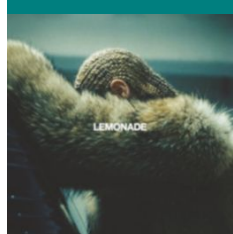
Sunflower Bean HUMAN CEREMONY

2016 was a banner year for Big Apple-based rock'n'roll, with Parquet Courts, Public Access TV, DIIV, The Britanys and even The Strokes all turning heads with new releases. Yet Brooklyn trio Sunflower Bean caused the biggest stir with this perfectly crafted debut, blending swirling psychedelia, sledgehammer riffs and shoegazing dream-pop with a skill and self-assurance far beyond their years. 'Human Ceremony' was the perfect, indisputable antidote to those who would prematurely write rock'n'roll's obituary.

FOR FANS OF



11



Beyoncé LEMONADE

The work of a woman scorned, or a lavish PR campaign? With tunes this good, who cares? Beyoncé proved herself a force to be reckoned with on her sixth LP – her second visual album following 2013's 'Beyoncé'. Breathtakingly broad, it featured her first country song, contributions from Jack White, Kendrick Lamar and Father John Misty, and a giant push for the Black Lives Matter protest movement. It pitched her as political firebrand, superwoman and total badass, and succeeded on all fronts.

10



Frank Ocean BLOND

The most anticipated album of the year came like a bolt from the blue. It was subtler than its predecessor, 2012's 'Channel Orange', but no less powerful. Joined by Jamie xx on standout track 'Ivy' – with its lovely "I thought that I was dreaming / When you said you loved me" refrain – he effortlessly set the downbeat disco tone. Beyoncé dropped by on 'Pink + White', as did Kendrick Lamar on 'Skyline To', but their presence was barely perceptible. In fact, the guest who made the most impact was the mother of one of Ocean's pals on the skit 'Be Yourself'.



FAMOUS FAN
"She's special. She's a sweetheart. She's smart, she's creative, she's a great mother, she loves her family. She's just a low-key lady – we have a lot in common that way. Except I can't sing. And I can't dance."
MICHELLE OBAMA



8



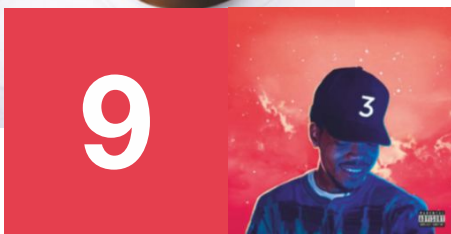
Iggy Pop POST POP DEPRESSION

In a year in which so many legends left us, the continued presence of the majestic Iggy Pop was a blessing. Especially when he took it upon himself to release one of the most fully realised albums of his half-a-century-long career. Joining forces with Queens Of The Stone Age's Josh Homme and Dean Fertita, as well as Arctic Monkeys' Matt Helders, the leathered-up backing band let Iggy soar, melding their sassy garage rock to the godfather of punk's gnarly poetry. It was funny, it was sexy and it was totally f**king cool – just like Iggy.



Chance The Rapper COLORING BOOK

The Chicago rapper kicked off 2016 with an impressive guest spot on Kanye West's 'Ultralight Beam', but he was only getting started. In May he self-released his third mixtape, a soaring, gospel-inflected hip-hop album that gave spirituality and partying equal credence. The two 'Blessings' tracks offered sweet soul salvation, while the bouncing 'All Night' and Justin Bieber-featuring 'Juke Jam' were superlative dancefloor fillers. Ballads 'Same Drugs' and 'Summer Friends' were the perfect soundtrack for a little cry.



STRANGE & TRUE
Iggy sent producer Homme a dozen essays about his sex life in preparation for the album's recording sessions.



7

DIIV IS THE IS ARE

Between the abandoned recording sessions, frontman Zachary Cole Smith's arrest for heroin possession, the departure of their drummer and the revelation of their bassist's 4chan posting history, DIIV's second album had a tortuous gestation. Smith even called it his "one shot at immortality". While it wasn't quite that dramatic, 'Is The Is Are' was certainly far better than it had any right to be. This was the sound of a very promising band course-correcting away from implosion.



STRANGE & TRUE

'Blackstar' was the first and only album of Bowie's career not to feature an image of the artist himself on the cover.



6



David Bowie BLACKSTAR

'Blackstar' brought the curtain down on a remarkable life and career with one last dazzling feat of theatricality. You can debate where David Bowie's 27th and final studio album ultimately sits in the grand scheme of his discography, but you can't deny the emotional resonance of its songs, nor fail to admire the intricate planning that went into its making. From the occult

references in its lyrics, to the hidden artwork on its sleeve, to the heartbreaking video for 'Lazarus', 'Blackstar' was an album of secrets, clues and riddles, and a fitting last transmission from the now-ascended master.



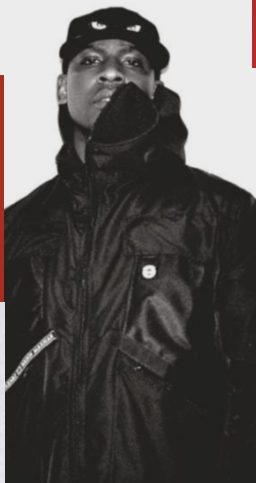
5



Kaytranada 99.9%

Canadian producer Louis Kevin Celestin's magical hip-hop and house-infused debut touched on everything from J Dilla to old-school disco. It also featured the best thing Craig David has done since 'Born To Do It' in the shape of the ultra-smooth 'Got It Good'. Syd from The Internet draped her airy vocals over glitch pop banger 'You're The One', while Anderson .Paak melted himself onto the horizontal R&B of 'Glowed Up'. Kaytranada also gave himself room to shine solo, repurposing Brazilian singer Gal Costa's 'Pontos De Luz' on 'Lite Spots' by adding beefier beats. A delight.

4



Skepta KONNICHIWA

The well-deserved winner of the Mercury Prize, Skepta's fourth album was a landmark release in the story of grime. UK scene players old and new were featured, from Wiley to Novelist via Chip and Jme, but Skepta was the true star of show, heading up his uncompromising vision with a healthy dose of wit. A trio of flawless tunes, 'Man', 'Shutdown' and 'That's Not Me', stood proud in the middle of a record that was both a call to arms and a statement of intent.

3

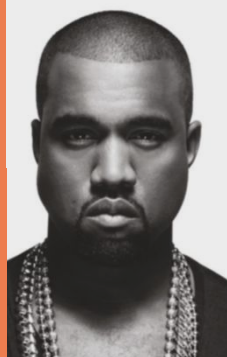


Christine & The Queens

CHALEUR HUMAINE

Already a star in her native France, 2016 was the year Héloïse Letissier went global, thanks to the electro-pop grace of 'Chaleur Humaine' and a live charisma that dazzled a stunned Glastonbury crowd. Her debut was sophisticated and sensitive, packed full of cool pansexual pop with a heart as big as its hooks. It took on the big topics of 2016 – queer identity and gender politics – with grace and class; the follow-up will 'redefine what it means to be sexy,' she told *NME*.

2



Kanye West THE LIFE OF PABLO

Kanye's epic 20-track seventh album continued to show off his killer ear for a sample – from reggae great Sister Nancy on 'Famous' to avant-garde composer Arthur Russell on '30 Hours' – and proved his major-league magnetism, bringing in guest appearances from Rihanna, Kendrick Lamar and Chance The Rapper. It also kept Kanye in the headlines thanks to controversial lyrics about Taylor Swift. He spent the year tweaking and re-releasing the record. Odd, sure. But also oh-so very Kanye.



STRANGE & TRUE

Matt Healy originally offered 'The Sound' to One Direction to record, "but nothing came of it".

BIG AND CLEVER

The 1975's 'I Like It When You Sleep, For You Are So Beautiful Yet So Unaware Of It' is an epically long, genre-hopping, wilfully pretentious opus, and it is – deservedly – our Album Of The Year. “If this is my life, I am nailing it,” Matt Healy tells Dan Stubbs

PHOTOS BY ADAM POWELL

1

The 1975 I LIKE IT WHEN YOU SLEEP, FOR YOU ARE SO BEAUTIFUL YET SO UNAWARE OF IT

Any album with a title this unwieldy inevitably opens itself up to ridicule, but it turns out that The 1975 thrive on the ridiculous. At 74 minutes long, with 17 tracks spanning everything from pop to post-rock and all points in between, the Manchester group's second album was a fascinating reflection of their frontman Matt Healy's outsized, often contrarian personality: egomaniacal but introverted, populist but unapologetically pretentious, insecure but hungry for attention. “The world needs this album,” Healy told *NME*, and the world's response to it – topping the charts on both sides of the Atlantic – proved him right.





Justice

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CHRISTINE AND THE QUEENS

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IN NEW YORK CITY AROUND about this time last year, Matt Healy sat down with *NME* and talked up his band The 1975's next record. "The world *needs* this album," he said. There was, as there always is with Healy, something of a nudge and a wink, a bit of rock'n'roll arrogance delivered with a running commentary on the mental process leading up to it. It was a big, ridiculous claim about a big, ridiculous album, but you have to admit he had a point. Today, in the bar at Chicago's Waldorf Astoria hotel, Healy is informed that *NME* has named 'I Like It When You Sleep, For You Are So Beautiful Yet So Unaware Of It' its Album Of The Year 2016. The frontman – wearing a baggy black hoodie with a 'Parental Advisory: Exquisite Lyrics' print – is fabulously nonchalant about it. "Yeah, it feels good," he shrugs. "But it's a bit, like, 'So-rreeee,' isn't it – for that time you called us the worst band in the world [at 2014's NME Awards]." They've come a long way, baby.

For anyone not already up to speed, a quick recap: 'I Like It When You Sleep...' (as Healy himself abbreviates it) followed a wildly popular but critically ignored 2013 debut album that catapulted the band – and particularly the charismatic Healy – to the level of fame that gives power to personal demons. Coupled with a punishing touring schedule, Healy hit a self-destructive low point from which the second album was both the result and his salvation – rarely has cocaine paranoia been captured quite so adeptly as on the single 'UGH'. "My life had changed and I couldn't make another record about being a bored, middle-class teenager in Macclesfield, but I also didn't want to get caught in the trap of making a record about 'poor famous me,'" he says. "You know, 'Oh God, Champagne tastes horrible; aren't threesomes hard?' So I went quite inward – it's not about going partying, it's an odyssey into my brain."

'I Like It When You Sleep...' is that rare follow-up record that knocks spots off the debut, its broad musical sound a reflection of the band's far-ranging tastes, pinching from artists as diverse as Bowie, Yazoo and D'Angelo. "All creation stems from imitation and that was very much at the forefront of my mind," says Healy. "I had a list of songs by other artists that I was going to rip off. Like, I need it."

In a year in which giants including Beyoncé, Drake, Frank Ocean, Lady Gaga and Radiohead have put out new records, the two top spots on our list are occupied by those who took a greater gamble than the rest: Kanye West, with his ever-changing 'living album' 'The Life Of Pablo', and The 1975 with their epically long, genre-hopping,

"It's been intense, like living in a mad TV show"

wilfully pretentious opus. "We wanted it to feel very cinematic and it is almost the length of a film," says Healy. "We got to the point where we were told it wouldn't fit on a CD if we carried on. It was just this really exciting creative bender, and the more ridiculous it got, the more subversive it got. But there's f**k all wrong with the album. Nothing. It's perfect for me. I could spend another two years on it and maybe make it three per cent better."

Today marks the band's third visit to Chicago in 12 months. Healy, who spent his formative years in well-to-do Wilmslow, Cheshire, but now lives in London, jokes that he's seen more of the USA than Hillary Clinton this year, "because we went to f**king Wisconsin". The 1975's relationship with the US is a mutual love affair. "Michael Jackson, Talking Heads and *Back To The Future* always resonated with me a bit more than Joy Division, The Smiths and *Withnail And I*," he says. According to the band's drummer George Daniel, Healy's started singing like an American too. "He said the other day, 'You're crooning on this album, like you're f**king Elvis or something.' I listened back to 'Change Of Heart' and thought, 'Oh yeah, what a dick.'"

Being in the States during ●●●



I like it when you go deep...

Matt's intimate guide to tracks on The 1975's second album

THE PERSONAL ONE

She Lays Down

"It's about my mum's postnatal depression, so there's an element of weird guilt there. She actively *tried* to love me. How brutal is that?"

THE ONE DIRECTION ONE

The Sound

"I think it's very distasteful when artists talk about money, but I got a phone call saying One Direction wanted me to write a tune for them and thought, you know, f**king get in! So I went in there, really nice lads, but I didn't know what I was doing so I just started playing them demos of stuff I already had. I don't know if I'd really have given it to them."

THE W**KY LYRIC ONE

The Sound

"I'm going on about 'epicurean philosophy'. I got it from an Alain de Botton book – it's this idea of just living life for the sake of pleasure."

THE LYRIC I'M MOST PROUD OF

Paris
"It's this: 'Hey kids, we're all just the same, what a shame'. It's kind of a joke pointed at elitism, racism."

THE ONE THAT CONFUSES AMERICANS

I Like It When You Sleep...

"Before you go, turn the big light off" is very northern. Or in 'Paris', there's the line, 'Not enough noise and too much racket'. It's a drug reference."

THE ONE I'M OUT OF LOVE WITH

This Must Be My Dream

"It's winding me up at the moment. It's just so hard to sing."

THE ONE THAT GOT ME INTO TROUBLE

Change Of Heart

"I got a phone call off my ex just going f**king nuts. I had to be like, 'It's not really even about you, sorry.'"

THE REVEALING ONE

The Ballad Of Me And My Brain

"It's intense but it doesn't take itself too seriously. It's quite funny at times. I think that sums me up quite well."

THE EASY ONE TO WRITE

Somebody Else

"It was originally about my aunt, but when I argued with that girl about 'Change Of Heart' it got me thinking, and I just had to switch its focus."

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the presidential election campaign has challenged Healy's understanding of the place. "Every night on stage, whether we'd been in a Trump state or not, I'd been saying, 'We're English and we know what it's like to f**k up your country very swiftly.' And even after I said it, it still happened. Can you believe that?" The band were in New York when the result came in, and Healy cried when Trump won. "I was *tired* and we felt a bit defeated," he says. "I got very much caught up in the race, bigotry, Donald-Trump-says-stupid-things stuff, so when it happened I was like, '*F**king white people*, what the f**k are we doing', you know? But the fact of the matter is America voted for Trump – white, black, Latino, middle class, poor – so the thing now is to understand their genuine concerns." Is it odd having your biggest, best year while the rest of the world goes to hell in a handcart? "No, because I'm not that caught up in myself," says Healy. "So much mad s**t's happened: Donald Trump's the president. Brexit. We got nominated for the Mercury. I mean, I'll be glad to be over it. I'm running on fumes, emotionally and physically. It's been intense for me and intense globally – it's so hard to keep up, to be 'woke', as they say. It's like living in a mad TV show."

Here are some things that happened in The 1975's mad TV show recently: Healy was invited to Diplo's house to hang out, but thought the Halloween decorations looked so cheap he must be in the wrong place. Bassist Ross MacDonald almost got in a fight with a notoriously bratty pop megastar. They played a one-off show backed by the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra. And when the band found themselves in the same LA hotel as much of the Desert Trip line-up – Bob Dylan's band and Neil Young included – it was Who frontman Roger Daltrey who came up to Healy and asked him if he was "that kid from The 1975". Feeling shy, Healy took off to his room for a crafty smoke instead. "People ask if it blows my mind to have loads of girls outside our gigs and all that stuff, but to be honest, it doesn't, because you're not wired to have your mind blown every 20 minutes," he says. "You get used to stuff. You can't walk around s**tting yourself."

The next day, we meet in the massive Chicago Music Exchange store, which seems to have the effect on guitarists that a trip to Toys R Us has on your average five-year-old. The 1975's Adam Hann is there, and he and Healy watch a vintage valve reverb unit in action with the lustiness of Homer Simpson eyeing up a doughnut. Healy's in the market for a new guitar and he narrows the choice down to two: a century-old Martin that he reckons makes him sound like

cardigan folkie James Taylor, and a 1960s Gibson. I suggest maybe he'd like the Taylor Swift signature edition acoustic on the hanger behind him, and he politely diverts the subject matter, having spent two years denying he ever had relations with that woman. "That's where the money is, signature guitar ranges," he says, by way of deflection. He plumps for the Gibson, a snip at \$3,950. "That's from the album three budget though," he says, before heading back to the venue for tonight's gig. "That's not me thinking, 'What am I going to buy: bacon or guitars?'"

Though we're still celebrating 'I Like It When You Sleep...', the next 1975 album is already forming in the band's minds. "I don't have an attention span, so I'm onto the next one," says Healy. "What's it going to be like? Even more ridiculous, I'd imagine. It's almost starting to sound like a deconstructed version of The 1975, like if The 1975 were falling apart a bit."

That couldn't be further from the truth. Healy's more famous than ever, but he's not letting himself fall into old habits. "Cocaine is extremely old hat for me – it makes me feel like s**t – and I backed away from social media, so I'm just not wired in any more," he says. "I feel a bit more comfortable with being normal. I think I felt a duty to be famous. I think there was an element of me being, 'Oh God, I should be going out, or be at this thing,' but I didn't want to embrace anything other than smoking weed and writing songs, and I got a bit more comfortable with that being OK."

Touring life is practically suburban, he says: a lot of weed, FIFA, writing and hanging out with the band and crew, nearly all of whom are old friends. As he speaks, we can hear the low hum of Daniel racing a remote control car around the empty venue.

Healy's most troubled times typically came at home, when the routine of touring was replaced with the silence of everyday life. Now, he has a house of his own that's a "three-minute skateboard" from best mate Daniel's, and a Bullmastiff cross named Allen Ginsberg keeps him company. "I used to think I was a beat poet," he says. "Now I have a dog named after one."

Being settled seems to suit him. "My



(L-r): Adam Hann and Matt Healy at Lollapalooza in July

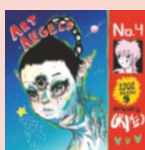
job is curating my life through music, which is f**king mint," he says, "and now I've found a balance, I'm thinking, 'If this is it, if this is what I get to do now forever, then f**k me, that's a steal. I have *nailed it!*'"

Later that night, at the improbably early time of 8pm, the band take to the stage at Chicago's ornate fantasyland Aragon Ballroom to play a refined, reinvented version of the show they've been touring all year, in which the entire stage is covered with video screens. The latest incarnation, which they bring to London's The O2 and Manchester Arena in December, sees deeper cuts on the setlist and feels more leftfield. For much of it, the band are silhouettes: great for fans of visual art, not so much for anyone who's there to gaze at Healy's face.

This, you suspect, is Healy's grand plan entering a new phase: The 1975 are a pop Trojan horse that's revealing itself to be something a bit more complicated, a bit weirder. Trust that he won't f**k it up: there's a strategy in place. "We'll put something out next year, whether it be a single or an EP, album in 2018, headline Reading and Leeds that year, headline Glastonbury the year after or the year after that." Simple as that? "Yeah. I mean, I haven't got the offers yet. But I tell you now, I'm doing it. Who else is going to do it?"

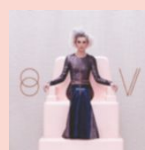
NME

NME's last three Albums Of The Year



2015

GRIMES
'Art Angels'



2014

ST VINCENT
'St Vincent'



2013

ARCTIC MONKEYS
'AM'

Tracks Tracks Tracks of the year

It's been
the year of
bangers with
meaning



9

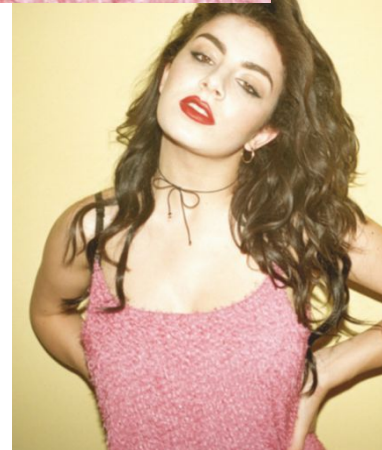
Lady Leshurr WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

The Brummie grime queen was on fast, furious and downright funny form on this supercharged smash, which channelled Dizzee Rascal at his most outrageous. A guest verse from Wiley was the icing on an already delicious cake. Mouthy as f**k and all the better for it.

8

Skepta MAN

"I got bars like Camden Town," shrugged a casual Skepta on the heavy but hilarious 'Man'. A heady mixture of north London knowledge and social media shout-outs, here the Tottenham titan pledged allegiance to his crew over some seriously gnarly beats.



7

Kanye West ULTRALIGHT BEAM

The gorgeous gospel opener of 'The Life Of Pablo' proved that Kanye can be chill when he wants. Lifted further by a guest spot from Chance The Rapper, it showed hip-hop giants present and future united in the pursuit of greatness. Good for an off-key singalong.

6

Beyoncé FORMATION

This year there was no pop cultural image as iconic as Beyoncé lounging on a sinking police car in a flooded New Orleans for the 'Formation' video. The song itself was just as powerful; here was Beyoncé celebrating black culture through the medium of transcendent trap. She slayed this year.

5

Christine & The Queens TILTED

One of those songs that stops you in your tracks, 'Tilted' was the English language version of Christine & The Queens' French hit 'Christine'. Nothing was lost in translation: utterly gorgeous electro-pop with a smooth R&B edge, 'Tilted' remains totally timeless.

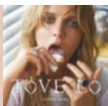
15



Bastille GOOD GRIEF

The comeback single from Dan Smith and co was brilliantly subversive: a cheery pop song about coping with death. It made up for its lack of ha-has in its humility, and the dialogue tapped into '80s movie nostalgia.

14



Tove Lo COOL GIRL

Sweden's sex-positive darkwave synth-pop sensation delivered an impossibly chic appraisal of the joys of casual relationships. "Let's not put a label on it / Let's keep it fun," she sang. Whatever you say, Tove. Features the year's best key change, too.



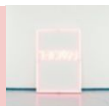
13



Warpaint NEW SONG

The notoriously proggy LA quartet took their first turn to out-and-out pop with 'New Song', and goodness did it suit them. Like Stevie Nicks getting down on a Friday in an Essex nightclub, it was carefree and just a tiny bit weird.

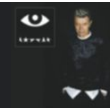
12



The 1975 THE SOUND

Referencing every trashy '80s synth band from The Human League to ABC, 'The Sound' still managed to perfectly nail the sound of 2016, soaring above the bulls**t with style, grace and one hell of a chorus. Impossible to shake out of your head once heard – and it didn't matter in the slightest.

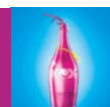
11



David Bowie LAZARUS

Released just days before his death, 'Lazarus' was David Bowie saying goodbye. "Look up here / I'm in heaven," he whispered in the track's devastating opening lines. As exits go, it was classy as hell and one of the most powerful songs of his career.

10



Charli XCX AFTER THE AFTERPARTY

Girl power was strong in 'After The Afterparty', a candy-coloured techno-pop daydream that came over like the Spice Girls produced by Major Lazer. "I got glitter in my underwear like it was Studio 54," sasses Charli, before Lil Yachty rocks up to worship at the altar of partying.

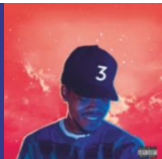
4



Iggy Pop GARDENIA

Iggy's gloriously weathered baritone was at the helm of this strutting garage groover. Deeply sexual, this was Iggy channelling his inner Leonard Cohen as Josh Homme led the band down some dark and sinister backstreets. Divine.

3



Chance The Rapper

ALL NIGHT

Chance's third mixtape, 'Coloring Book', may have been typified by some serious spirituality, but he didn't let that get in the way of a damn good night. The golden age of hip-hop got its due on this devilishly good dancefloor jam.

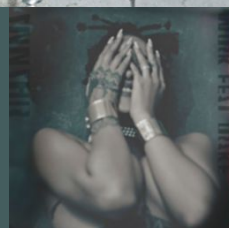
2



The 1975 SOMEBODY ELSE

Matt Healy enters full heartbreak mode on this slow-burning beauty that sounds like it's been lifted off the most atmospheric part of the *Drive* soundtrack. Also notable for the fact that Matty has sex with himself in the back of a car in the song's moody video.

1



Rihanna WORK

This downbeat dancehall anthem was the hottest thing to hit 2016 – a mating ritual set to music, and yet another chance for Rihanna and Drake to flirt outrageously on record. "If you had a twin / I would still choose you," purred Drake on this sonic fireball. ●●●



WORDS: LEONIE COOPER, PHOTOS: MATT SALACUSE, ZOE MCCONNELL

Films Films Films of the year



Captain America: Civil War

Chris Evans, Robert Downey Jr, Scarlett Johansson

19

Turns out the best Avengers movie wasn't an Avengers movie. *Cap 3* had everything – a story that challenged what we knew about the characters (including Captain America and Iron Man pitted against each other), lots of jokes and a fantastic airport action sequence. It just lacked a decent villain, but even that hardly mattered.

IN A NUTSHELL: It was a weak summer for blockbusters, but this would still have been one of the best in any year.

Featuring: dick pics, superheroes, dirty cartoons, the Catholic Church and the Gallagher brothers

Sausage Party

Seth Rogen, Kristen Wiig, Jonah Hill

Heaven help any parent who thought this animated comedy was for kids. It was one of the filthiest movies of the year. Ostensibly a story of supermarket foodstuffs who believe a world of freedom lies beyond the automatic doors – rather than a place where humans happily eat them – it's a very sweary sex comedy that also dealt with American racism and intolerance of anyone different from the norm.

IN A NUTSHELL: In light of Donald Trump's victory, possibly 2016's most political movie.

18



STRANGE & TRUE

Creator Seth Rogen said they had to remove pubic hair from a pitta bread's "ball sack" to satisfy US censors.



Weiner

Huma Abedin, Amit Bagga

US politician Anthony Weiner became internationally famous when he accidentally treated Twitter to a photo of his erection, intended for someone other than his wife. This documentary follows his attempt to rebuild his career with a run for mayor of New York, which he kept self-sabotaging with more sex scandals and an ego so out of control that he'd run toward any attention, no matter how negative.

IN A NUTSHELL: It's a fascinating, saddening, bleakly funny parable of a man allowing his political brain to be shouted down by his idiot penis.

20

STRANGE & TRUE

Weiner's alias for his online sexting?
Carlos Danger.

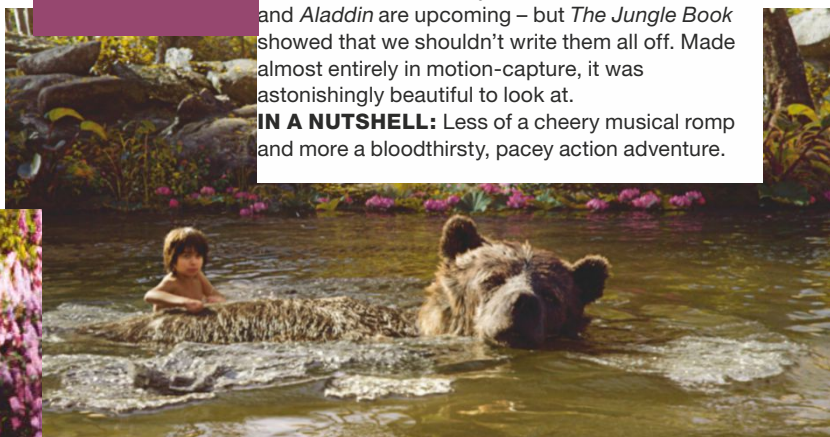
17

The Jungle Book

Idris Elba, Bill Murray, Ben Kingsley

It's easy to be cynical about Disney's rush to remake its animated classics – *Cinderella* has been done while *Beauty And The Beast*, *Mulan* and *Aladdin* are upcoming – but *The Jungle Book* showed that we shouldn't write them all off. Made almost entirely in motion-capture, it was astonishingly beautiful to look at.

IN A NUTSHELL: Less of a cheery musical romp and more a bloodthirsty, pacey action adventure.



16

I, Daniel Blake

Dave Johns, Hayley Squires, Sharon Percy

Ken Loach directed this story of Daniel, a man in north-east England who's been signed off due to injury. The government believes he's fit for work, putting him in the position of being neither able to earn his own money nor to claim benefits. Loach doesn't pretend to be balanced in arguing for those who've been beaten down by circumstance but are treated like cheats by tabloid headlines and government bureaucracy.

IN A NUTSHELL: It's a protest movie and a very, very powerful one.

13

Wiener Dog

Greta Gerwig, Danny DeVito, Keaton Nigel Cooke

Todd Solondz (*Happiness*, *Welcome To The Dollhouse*) does not make happy movies – but he does make grimly funny ones. The dog of the title is a hound who's adopted by a series of misfits, all of whom are trying to repair their broken lives. They don't so much mend themselves as break the dog. Fun!

IN A NUTSHELL: Todd Solondz's best film for a long time.

12

Spotlight

Mark Ruffalo, Michael Keaton, Rachel McAdams

A drama about a small band of *Boston Globe* journalists exposing the cover-up of child sex abuse in the Catholic Church, *Spotlight* swept in from nowhere to win the Best Picture Oscar this year.

Director Tom McCarthy took a calm, procedural approach to his story, keeping the focus on his journalists and letting the horrors of what they uncovered speak for themselves.

IN A NUTSHELL: Its subject is a difficult one, but in showing that there are people who will fight to shine light on darkness, it's also a film with a strong sense of hope.

15

Green Room

Anton Yelchin, Imogen Poots, Joe Cole, Alia Shawkat

A nasty but effective action-horror, *Green Room* unnerves you from the start and cranks up the tension to unbearable levels. A band agree to a gig in a club only to discover it's run by white supremacists. Needless to say, things do not go well.

IN A NUTSHELL: Gory nightmare with an excellent cast led by the late Anton Yelchin.

14

The Witch

Anya Taylor-Joy, Ralph Ineson, Kate Dickie

Robert Eggers is one of the most exciting directors to show up this year. This, his first movie, is a horror film that burrows into your mind and will possibly leave you feeling unsettled for weeks. Set in 17th century New England, it centres on a family living an isolated existence next to the woods.

IN A NUTSHELL: In those woods lurks something evil.

10 Cloverfield Lane

John Goodman, Mary Elizabeth Winstead, John Gallagher Jr

10 Cloverfield Lane exists in the same world as 2008's alien invasion movie *Cloverfield* but tells a different story. Mary Elizabeth Winstead plays a woman who wakes up in a bunker after a car accident. She's kept there by a man (John Goodman) who tells her a terrible event has happened outside. But can she believe him?

IN A NUTSHELL: A neat, disturbing thriller brimming with sustained tension.

11



10

Room

Brie Larson, Jacob Tremblay, Joan Allen, William H Macy

Brie Larson rightly won an Oscar for her performance, but it's young Jacob Tremblay who sticks in the mind. *Room* is the harrowing account of a young woman who's been held hostage for several years in a single room with her son (Tremblay), whose whole world exists within those four walls.

IN A NUTSHELL: Works both as a thriller about two people trying to escape and a drama about what it's like for a small child to suddenly discover a world beyond everything he thought was true.



8

My Scientology Movie

Louis Theroux, Marty Rathbun

2016 was a big year for Louis Theroux. There were BBC docs on alcoholism, brain injuries and his second Jimmy Savile investigation, but it was also the beloved filmmaker's first foray onto the big screen. *My Scientology Movie* was wilfully weird, in that Theroux was constantly refused access to the very thing he was trying to make a movie about. Ever resourceful, he managed to find a way around it and encountered some very peculiar characters along the way.

IN A NUTSHELL: Eccentric Brit tries to infiltrate a shady LA cult and fails – but in a fun way.

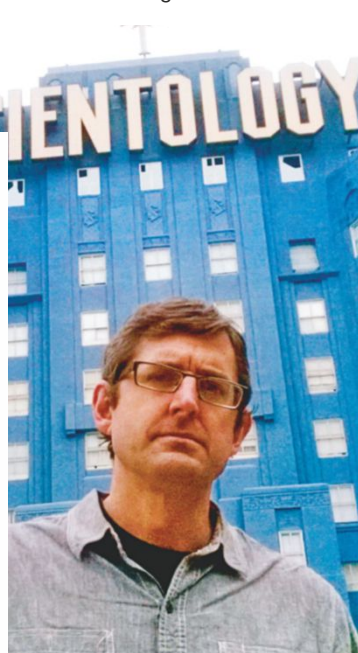
9

One More Time With Feeling

Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds, Warren Ellis

"Most of us don't want to change really," says Nick Cave through the sombre monochrome of *One More Time With Feeling*. "Why should we? But what happens when an event occurs which is so catastrophic that you just change?" The chameleon Cave we've grown to know over the last three decades is gone. In this painful portrait of a family navigating the loss of a son, he's simply a mourning father and a man dealing with grief the only way he knew how – with the compass of his art.

IN A NUTSHELL: Devastating but essential viewing.



Midnight Special

Michael Shannon, Kirsten Dunst, Adam Driver

To describe Jeff Nichols' movie as sci-fi might lead to the wrong expectations. While there are a couple of (superbly directed) action sequences featuring things crashing to Earth from space, this story of an otherworldly boy and the people trying to either protect or exploit him is much quieter and more thoughtful than typical sci-fi yarns.

IN A NUTSHELL: It's got a slow, almost meditative mood and lots of very strange ideas, which it gently pushes your way rather than bombarding you with them in a hail of laser beams and spaceships.

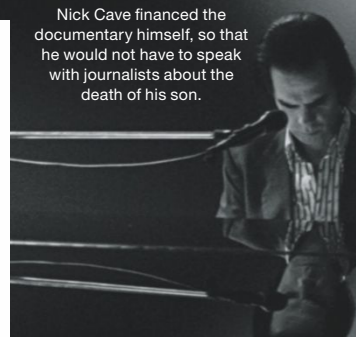


7



STRANGE & TRUE

Nick Cave financed the documentary himself, so that he would not have to speak with journalists about the death of his son.



6



Hunt For The Wilderpeople

Sam Neill, Julian Dennison, Rima Te Wiata

There wasn't a more cheering experience in cinemas this year than Taika Waititi's weirdo comedy about a chubby, self-possessed foster kid who goes on the run with his cantankerous foster father in the forests of New Zealand. Amid the many bizarre, hilarious adventures there's also a touching message about family and finding it wherever you can.

IN A NUTSHELL: If 2016 has got you down, this is likely to make you feel a bit better, albeit briefly.





5

American Honey

Sasha Lane, Shia LaBeouf, Riley Keough

The very British director Andrea Arnold has crafted a story of modern America that's only become more relevant since its release. It follows a young woman (Sasha Lane) as she tries to fulfil her own modest version of the American dream, travelling across the country with a group of rootless kids who are also desperately struggling to find their place in the world.

IN A NUTSHELL: A portrait of a girl and a nation undergoing their own identity crises.



4

The Nice Guys

Russell Crowe, Ryan Gosling, Angourie Rice

The strange combination of Russell Crowe and Ryan Gosling works a treat in this daffy film noir. Crowe is a private investigator who bends the rules to get justice done. Gosling is a private investigator who cons old ladies. When they team up to solve a crime, the crime itself becomes the least important part of the whole enterprise.

IN A NUTSHELL: Wonderfully snappy dialogue by Shane Black and a full-bodied performance by Gosling that proves once again why he's the internet's favourite boyfriend.

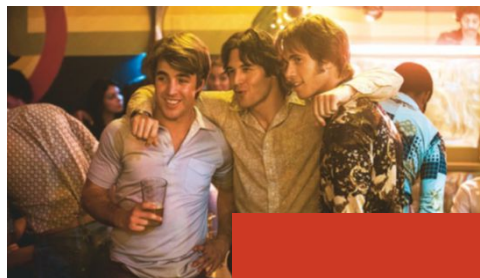
3

Everybody Wants Some!!

Blake Jenner, Tyler Hoechlin, Ryan Guzman

Richard Linklater's 'spiritual sequel' to *Dazed And Confused* takes place over the few days before a young man (Blake Jenner) starts college. He gets to know new friends, parties hard, meets girls. Ultimately, however, it's not really about those few days – it's more about the moment you change from being a kid to being a grown-up, and all the excitement and horror that comes with it. It's very funny but it's also a comedy that might suddenly have you bursting into nostalgic tears.

IN A NUTSHELL: The soundtrack is killer.



2

STRANGE & TRUE

Star Ryan Reynolds loaned his Deadpool costume from the film to Taylor Swift to wear as her 2016 Halloween outfit.

Deadpool

Ryan Reynolds, Morena Baccarin, TJ Miller

Easily the year's most surprising commercial success, *Deadpool* was a timely reminder that nobody in Hollywood really knows anything. Based on a lesser-known comic book character (who shows few signs of heroism), it was given a modest \$58 million budget in the expectation it might make a decent return. It deservedly made over \$750 million at the box office. With an all-in performance by Ryan Reynolds as the amoral, sexually fluid hero, and light on the universe-building self-importance of other superhero movies, it was a blast.

IN A NUTSHELL: A cleverly silly assault of well-staged action and A+ dick jokes.



REVIEW OF THE YEAR ISSUE



1

Supersonic

Liam Gallagher, Noel Gallagher, Peggy Gallagher

It says everything about how entertaining Oasis were in their early years that the first cut of director Mat Whitecross's film – charting the band's rise from the council estates of Manchester to the biggest gigs the UK had ever seen – was 20 hours long. He's since shaved 18 hours off the running time but we're willing to bet they were a blast given the brilliant footage of the band rehearsing in Manchester, playing in LA, recording in Monmouthshire, fighting and generally getting w**kered all over the place. There are also revealing new interviews with Noel, Liam and Peggy Gallagher and others ("Noel has a lot of buttons, Liam has a lot of fingers"), but what *Supersonic* does brilliantly is capture the essence of what Oasis were, beyond all the lad rock and Britpop clichés – five working class kids with nothing to lose, who got incredibly famous incredibly fast and had an amazing time doing it. "We were the biggest band in the country but we didn't give a f**k," says Noel at one point. Such abandon is a delight to behold.

IN A NUTSHELL: From Manchester to Knebworth via massive tunes, loads of gear, a million pints and a smattering of brotherly love. Unmissable.

TV TV TV of the year

You know it's
a good year when
Game Of Thrones
isn't Number One

10

Love NETFLIX

Catastrophe and *You're The Worst* both depicted the foibles of modern romance with unflinching ferocity, but *Love* took things to the next level. Star-crossed protagonists Mickey and Gus – brilliantly portrayed by Gillian Jacobs and Paul Rust – weren't just flawed, they were downright toxic. A romcom for people who hate romcoms.

STRANGE & TRUE

Judd Apatow, who co-wrote *Love* alongside its male lead Paul Rust, envisaged the show as a sort-of sequel to his 2007 film *Knocked Up*.

Girls HBO

If Lena Dunham's millennial-defining series lost its way in its fourth season, everything came zinging back into focus for season five. Having watched Hannah and her friends/frenemies spend forever wallowing in various self-delusions, it was a joy to see them finally starting to grow up a bit (albeit in reliably painful ways). The finale was perhaps the most hilarious, heartbreaking episode of the show's entire run, with a *Sex And The City*-esque ending that shouldn't have worked but totally did.

9

7

STRANGE & TRUE

Accepting his Emmy Award for his role as *Transparent*'s lead character Maura Pfefferman, Jeffrey Tambor requested that he be the last cisgender man to portray a transgender woman. He said: "Please give transgender talent a chance. Give them auditions. Give them their story."

Transparent AMAZON

It's to *Transparent*'s credit that, while its basic premise centres on a super-zeitgeisty issue – an older parent transitioning from male to female – it never feels like that's all the show's about. At its heart, it's a study of how one damaged family copes when long-buried secrets come rumbling up to the surface. We haven't seen characters this complex and ripe for armchair analysis since *Mad Men*.

8

Broad City COMEDY CENTRAL

Mixing some conflict in with the comedy for season three – Abbi's squirmy lies to Ilana over her relationship with Trey – *Broad City* continued to be the daftest, realest depiction of female BFF-ery on TV, able to switch between warm relatability and scatological surreality at the drop of a hat. Side note: we demand a spin-off show for Mona and Winona, the amazing air hostesses from the uproarious Abbi-gets-her-period-on-a-plane episode.

6

BoJack Horseman NETFLIX

Watching early episodes of animated comedy *BoJack Horseman* back in 2014, it seemed unlikely it'd ever make it to a third season, let alone become one of the sharpest shows out there. Death, addiction and watching your life spiral down the plughole, wrapped up in a cartoon about a man with a horse's head.



5

American Crime Story: The People v OJ Simpson

FX

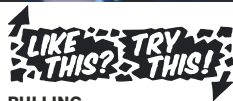
It's not like OJ Simpson's tale was one that had yet to be told – his original murder trial received obsessive media coverage – but this painstaking re-creation of those divisive days felt horribly compulsive. Much of the credit goes to Cuba Gooding Jr for his portrayal of Simpson, and to David Schwimmer as Robert Kardashian, slowly and wrenchingly coming to doubt his best friend's innocence.

4

Fleabag

BBC

Spinning out of a play performed at Edinburgh Festival, Phoebe Waller-Bridge's *Fleabag* marked the emergence of a new voice in British comedy. The titular character was hedonistic, razor-witted and occasionally evil, with surprising hidden depths that cast her behaviour in a different light. It's probably a bit reductive to call her 'the new Sharon Horgan', but we've gone and done it now so that's that.



PULLING

Never quite achieving the levels of popularity it deserved, Sharon Horgan's cult 2008 series – centring on the catastrophic lives of three single women – was way ahead of its time.

2

Game Of Thrones

HBO

The biggest, baddest show on TV finally ran out of plotlines to lift from the doorstep-sized novels that it's based on, but it ploughed on regardless and didn't miss a beat. Who needs ya, George RR Martin! (Seriously, though, do hurry up and finish that next book, yeah?) Producers of *The Walking Dead* take note: this is how you crank up the carnage levels and resurrect a much-loved 'dead' character without completely doing your audience's heads in.



STRANGE & TRUE

Game Of Thrones is so popular in Israel that the show has its own channel, screening episodes, cast interviews and behind-the-scenes footage 24/7. It's the only show ever to have had such an honour bestowed upon it.

1

Stranger Things

NETFLIX

It's the show that took dozens of pop-culture touchstones from the VHS era – from *The Goonies* to *Poltergeist*, *ET* to *Nightmare On Elm Street* – and blended them all together into one intoxicatingly nostalgic whole. There was more to *Stranger Things*, however, than fetishised Spielbergian stylings: it was the human drama that fuelled our ruinous binge-watching sessions. Plus, soundtrack of the year. No contest.

NME

3

Black Mirror

NETFLIX

Another batch of near-future nightmares, as Charlie Brooker's anthology show once again had you wondering if you should delete all social media apps. The highlight of this third series, however, was actually (sort of) uplifting rather than terrifying: *San Junipero* depicted love conquering all in a digital afterlife, eliciting more crying-emoji postings than anything else that's hit our screens this year.



FAMOUS FAN

"That *San Junipero* episode of *Black Mirror* is one of the top 10 things I've ever watched in my whole life. That includes every programme I've ever watched, every film, and even includes real life experiences as well – f**k it, the lot."

Limmy, comedian



Under THE RADAR

YOU HEARD IT HERE FIRST

PHOTOS BY ZOE MCCONNELL
STYLED BY KOULLA SERGI

Anne-Marie

Former Rudimental singer who could kick the st out of you**

AS A CHILD, ANNE-MARIE starred in a production of *Les Misérables* in the West End. Then, in her teens, she became a karate world champion. And for the last two years she's toured with Rudimental as a backing singer. Now, the Essex-born 24-year-old has a starring role on Clean Bandit's recent Number One single 'Rockabye', and is prepping some solo material. She's gonna be all over 2017.



What was it like being in *Les Misérables* at such a young age?

"At the time, I didn't really understand what was going on and I didn't actually fully take in what I was going into. Now, when I write songs I'm just writing stories, and being in musical theatre taught me how to act them out through singing."

You were a world karate champion at one point too, weren't you?

"I loved karate. It acted as my release of frustration when I was a teenager, because I was f**king horrible. I was angry and just s**t. All the kids at school would bully me and always wanted me to fight them. I never did, but if I wanted to I totally could."

What did you learn from touring as Rudimental's singer?

"It made me realise that all of my own songs were really slow. I was like, 'F**king hell, I need to write a song to jump around to.' It was the best thing I could have gone through for what I'm doing now. It was like work experience!"

Your first solo single 'Alarm' was a Top 20 hit – did that immediate success surprise you?

"I think all my life I've grown up and had high expectations, but that becomes so stressful. I could have put that single out and thought, 'F**king hell, why isn't that Number One in three weeks?' Now I don't have any expectations, so everything is a surprise."

Now you're a part of Clean Bandit's Number One single, and one of only four women to top the singles charts in 2016. Why do you think that is?

"When you're coming out new, it's harder as a girl to gain fans because most of them are girls, and they can be like, 'Do we like her?' If I were a boy it'd be much easier. But it's mad – I just hoped other people connected with that song and clearly they do." **Thomas Smith**

Anne-Marie wears:

Jacket, £1,075, Kenzo at Harvey Nichols.
Top, £22, Topshop. Trousers, £39, Topshop.
Earrings, £100, Caitlin Price x Maria Francesca Pepe.
Shoes, Anne-Marie's own.

Anne-Marie wears:

Shirt, POR, Joyrich.

Top, £170, Marques'Almeida at Harvey Nichols.

Trousers, £350, Kenzo at Harvey Nichols.

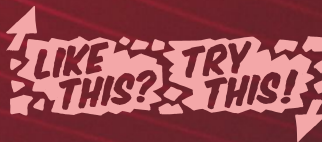
Earrings, £65, Maria Francesca Pepe.

Rings, £85 each, Joomi Lim.

Shoes and glasses, Anne-Marie's own.



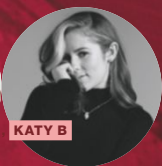
FOR FANS OF STRANGE & TRUE



Best track



CLEAN BANDIT



KATY B

When she arrived for her first writing session with Rudimental, she brought them chocolate brownies as a sweetener. The session didn't go great, but she insists that the brownies helped them remember her and might have got her the singing gig.



CARLY RAE JEPSEN 'Emotion'

On Jepsen's second album, she proved to the haters that she was more than just a gimmick with an empowering collection of pop anthems.

'ALARM'

Electronic beats swirl around Anne-Marie's distinctive, soulful vocals in this relatable and enthralling club banger.

Anne-Marie wears:

Coat, £690, MM6 at Urban Outfitters.
Jeans, £55, BDG at Urban Outfitters.
Boots, £90, Dr Martens at Schuh.
Earrings, £224, O Thong Thai x Ryan LO.



DECEMBER

- MON 12** MANCHESTER ARENA
WED 14 GLASGOW SSE HYDRO
THU 15 BIRMINGHAM BARCLAYCARD ARENA
FRI 16 LONDON THE SSE ARENA, WEMBLEY
SUN 18 CARDIFF MOTORPOINT ARENA
MON 19 NOTTINGHAM MOTORPOINT ARENA

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live

THE MOST IMPORTANT
GIGS THIS WEEK

The dark knights return

Back with third album 'I See You' in January, The xx have announced a massive UK tour

LONDON TRIO THE XX ARE known for being a teensy bit glum: they only wear black, they don't smile much, and singers Romy Madley Croft and Oliver Sim whisper wistful nothings at each other over sparse guitars, synths and drum machines. But that could all be about to change.

"We wanted to open the windows and be like, 'Let's try completely new things,'" says Croft of their forthcoming third album 'I See You', adding that it's "a collection of quite different-sounding songs".

Since The xx's last UK dates in mid-2013, producer Jamie Smith has continued putting out solo material as Jamie xx, and judging by lead single 'On Hold',

his sample-packed 2015 album 'In Colour' has rubbed off on the trio's latest.

Then there's the album title itself, an acknowledgement of The xx's increasing fame. The band have been posting more regularly than usual on Instagram, showing themselves holidaying, as children, and sometimes – seriously – grinning broadly. It's like they want to show more of themselves to fans – and vice versa.

"It's just going to be great to actually look into people's eyes and see the reaction," Croft says. "When you're going to a gig and you stand on the front row and you look at the people on stage, I always used to think they couldn't see me – I'm just invisible. And then I got on stage and I could see everybody. That's one of the meanings of the title, and a message to our fans."

THE XX

The Mercury-winning trio are sounding bigger than ever

MARCH 2017

Sat 4 Motorpoint Arena,
Nottingham **Sun 5 & Mon 6**

O2 Apollo, Manchester

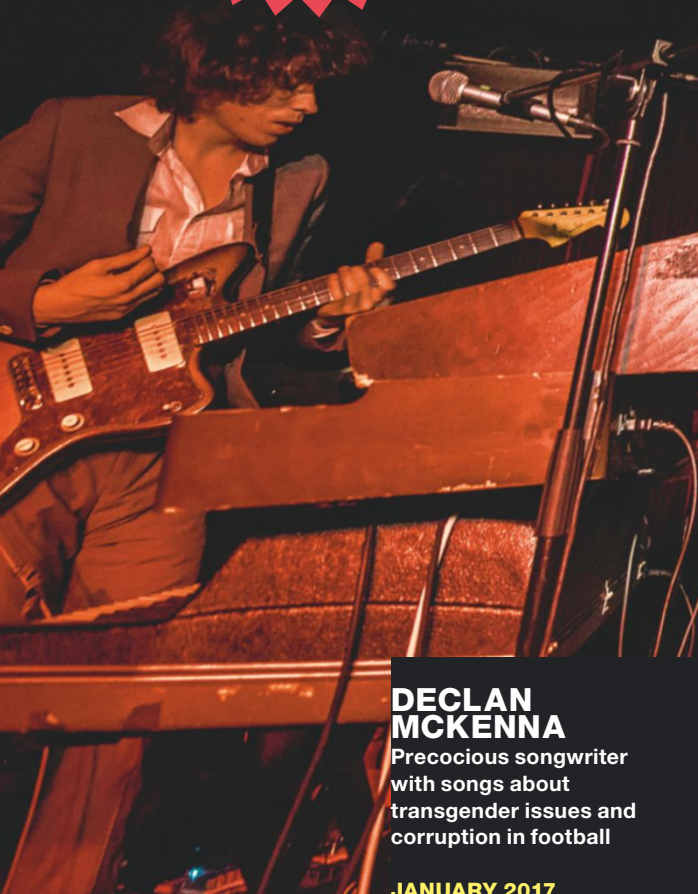
Wed 8, Thu 9, Fri 10 & Sat 11

O2 Academy Brixton, London

Fri 17 Motorpoint Arena,
Cardiff

TICKETS: £26.50-£29.50

**ON SALE
NOW**



DECLAN MCKENNA

Precocious songwriter
with songs about
transgender issues and
corruption in football

JANUARY 2017

Mon 23 Waterfront, Norwich

Tue 24 The Cookie, Leicester

Wed 25 Hare & Hounds,

Birmingham **Thu 26** Parr

Street Studios, Liverpool

Sat 28 Think Tank, Newcastle

Sun 29 Brudenell Social Club,

Leeds **Mon 30** Leadmill,

Sheffield **Tue 31** Patterns,

Brighton

MARCH 2017

Tue 21 O2 Academy, Oxford

Wed 22 The Wedgewood

Rooms, Portsmouth

Thu 23 The Garage, London

TELL ME MORE: The Hertfordshire teen won Glastonbury's Emerging Talent competition in 2015, and this year was on US TV. Check him out in these venues before he gets even bigger.

TICKETS: £9.35-£11.50



WARPAINT

LA indie quartet touring
Bowie-inspired third
album 'Heads Up'

MARCH 2017

Wed 22 O2 Institute,

Birmingham **Thu 23** Leeds

Beckett Students Union,

Leeds **Tue 28** O2 Academy,

Oxford **Wed 29** Dome,

Brighton

TELL ME MORE: This year, Warpaint surprised everyone by releasing euphoric pop track 'New Song', but their live show is still as brooding and atmospheric as ever.

TICKETS: £19.50-£22.50



FOXYGEN

Duo from California who deal in eclecticism

FEBRUARY 2017

Mon 27 KOKO, London

TELL ME MORE: Foxygen are perplexingly varied – after 2014's noisy '...And Star Power' their upcoming January album 'Hang' will feature contributors like the psychedelic Flaming Lips and the soulful Matthew E White, plus a 40-piece orchestra. Expect the unexpected.

TICKETS: £16.87



BLINK-182

Pop-punks touring seventh album 'California'

JULY 2017

Mon 3 Motorpoint Arena, Cardiff **Tue 4** Motorpoint Arena, Nottingham **Wed 5** First Direct Arena, Leeds **Fri 7** Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham **Sun 9** Metro Radio Arena, Newcastle **Tue 11** SSE Hydro, Glasgow **Fri 14** Arena, Manchester **Sat 15** Echo Arena, Liverpool **Mon 17** BIC, Bournemouth **Wed 19** The O2, London

TELL ME MORE: New guitarist Matt Skiba joins band regulars Mark Hoppus and Travis Barker on this massive UK arena tour.

TICKETS: £32.45-£34.40



RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS

LA funk veterans

DECEMBER

Mon 5 & Tue 6 The O2, London **Thu 8** SSE Hydro, Glasgow **Sat 10 & Sun 11** Genting Arena, Birmingham **Wed 14 & Thu 15** Arena, Manchester **Sun 18** The O2, London

TELL ME MORE: Touring 11th album 'The Getaway', the long-standing band are supported by Japanese metal sensations Babymetal.

TICKETS: £55-£77

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WITH REBEL KLEFF

YESTERDAY'S GONE TOUR



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FRI 03	GLASGOW GARAGE	SUN 12	BRISTOL MOTION
SAT 04	EDINBURGH LIQUID ROOM	MON 13	PLYMOUTH THE HUB
SUN 05	NEWCASTLE RIVERSIDE	WED 15	SOUTHAMPTON ENGINE ROOMS
TUE 07	OXFORD O2 ACADEMY	THU 16	BIRMINGHAM O2 INSTITUTE 2
WED 08	LEEDS BELGRAVE MUSIC HALL	FRI 17	LONDON O2 SHEPHERDS BUSH EMPIRE
THU 09	MANCHESTER ACADEMY 2	SAT 18	LONDON O2 SHEPHERDS BUSH EMPIRE

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- 05 APRIL - PLYMOUTH PAVILIONS
- 06 APRIL - BLACKBURN KING GEORGE'S HALL
- 07 APRIL - DONCASTER THE DOME
- 10 APRIL - BIRMINGHAM O2 ACADEMY
- 11 APRIL - BOURNEMOUTH SOLENT HALL
- 13 APRIL - GLASGOW SECC
- 14 APRIL - CARDIFF MOTORPOINT ARENA
- 15 APRIL - LONDON ALEXANDRA PALACE

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THE WEEK'S BEST GIGS

ALLUSONDRUGS

Fri 25 The Ferret, Preston
Sat 26 The Underground, Barnsley

ARDYN

Thu 1 St Pancras Old Church, London

BIFFY CLYRO

Sun 27 SSE Arena, Belfast
Tue 29 SSE Hydro, Glasgow
Wed 30 GE Oil & Gas Arena, Aberdeen

BILL RYDER-JONES

Sat 26 Floral Pavilion, New Brighton
Mon 28 Gorilla, Manchester

BLACK PEACHES

Thu 1 Sticky Mike's Frog Bar, Brighton

BLOSSOMS

Wed 30 O2 Academy, Leicester
Thu 1 University, Hull

CHANCE THE RAPPER

Sat 26 O2 Apollo, Manchester

CHASE AND STATUS

Fri 25 Guildhall, Portsmouth
Sat 26 Alexandra Palace, London

COURTEENERS

Fri 25 First Direct Arena, Leeds
Thu 1 The Hippodrome, Kingston Upon Thames

THE CURE

Tue 29 Arena, Manchester
Thu 1 SSE Arena Wembley, London

FICKLE FRIENDS

Fri 25 Moles, Bath
Sat 26 Phoenix, Exeter
Tue 29 Clwb Ifor Bach, Cardiff
Wed 30 The Forum, Tunbridge Wells
Thu 1 Heaven, London

GENGAHR

Fri 25 The Courtyard, London
Sat 26 The Boileroom, Guildford
Sun 27 Purple Turtle, Reading
Mon 28 The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent
Tue 29 Adelphi, Hull
Wed 30 Nation of Shopkeepers, Leeds
Thu 1 Westgarth Social Club, Middlesbrough

HINDS

Sat 26 Academy, Manchester
Sun 27 Saint Luke's, Glasgow
Thu 1 Trinity, Bristol

HMLTD

Sat 26 Suki10c, Birmingham
Sun 27 Castle Hotel, Manchester

HONEYBLOOD

Fri 25 The Joiners, Southampton
Sat 26 The Bullingdon, Oxford
Mon 28 Junction, Cambridge
Tue 29 Arts Centre, Norwich
Thu 1 Scala, London

JAWS

Fri 25 Headrow House, Leeds
Sat 26 Think Tank, Newcastle
Sun 27 King Tut's, Glasgow
Tue 29 Fruit, Hull
Wed 30 Sound Control, Manchester

JESS GLYNNE

Fri 25 Metro Radio Arena, Newcastle
Sun 27 Centre, Brighton
Mon 28 Pavilions, Plymouth
Wed 30 The O2, London
Thu 1 Motorpoint Arena, Cardiff

JUSTIN BIEBER

Mon 28 & Tue 29 The O2, London

KATE TEMPEST

Wed 30 The Empire Bar & Music Hall, Belfast
Thu 1 The Art School, Glasgow

KEHLANI

Tue 29 Village Underground, London

LAURA MVULA

Fri 25 Leadmill, Sheffield
Sat 26 O2 Academy, Bristol

LUH

Thu 1 The White Hotel, Salford

NIMMO

Fri 25 Soup Kitchen, Manchester
Sat 26 The Green Door Store, Brighton

THE ORWELLS

Tue 29 The Wardrobe, Leeds
Wed 30 The Dome, London

PAIGEY CAKEY

Tue 29 Surya, London

PALACE

Fri 25 The Deaf Institute, Manchester
Sat 26 King Tut's, Glasgow

live

SAVAGES

Fri 25 O2 Academy Brixton, London

SLAVES

Fri 25 O2 Academy, Sheffield
Sat 26 & Sun 27 Albert Hall, Manchester
Tue 29 & Wed 30 O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire, London

SUPER FURRY ANIMALS

Wed 30 The Limelight, Belfast

TOM MISCH

Fri 25 Hare & Hounds, Birmingham
Sat 26 Thekla, Bristol

TOY

Fri 25 Riverside, Newcastle
Sat 26 The Wardrobe, Leeds
Mon 28 Rock City, Nottingham
Tue 29 Waterfront, Norwich
Wed 30 Electric Brixton, London

TRAAMS

Fri 25 Clwb Ifor Bach, Cardiff

VANT

Sat 26 Kasbah, Coventry
Mon 28 The Haunt, Brighton
Tue 29 Scala, London

WHITE LIES

Fri 25 Albert Hall, Manchester
Sat 26 O2 Academy, Liverpool
Sun 27 O2 ABC, Glasgow
Tue 29 O2 Institute, Birmingham
Wed 30 University Union, Leeds
Thu 1 O2 Academy, Bristol

YUNGEN

Fri 25 The Nest, London



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BETTER
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SOUNDTRACK OF MY LIFE

Miles Teller

Bleed for this *Whiplash* star

THE FIRST GIG I WENT TO

BOWLING FOR SOUP

"They were opening for Jimmie's Chicken Shack [post-grunge alt-rockers from Maryland] and I was, like, 10 or 11 years old. Me and my friends went with our parents. It was kinda like a pop/punk show and I remember thinking we were pretty badass."

THE ALBUM THAT CHANGED MY LIFE

THE GRATEFUL DEAD

The Grateful Dead

"In the holiday between my freshman and sophomore years in college I went to this music festival called Gathering Of The Vibes, and Bob Weir [founding member of the psychedelic rock legends] was playing Grateful Dead classics with Dark Star. I went, took some 'elements' and had a truly spiritual experience! From then on, that was it. I was sold. And I've always enjoyed live albums."



THE GRATEFUL DEAD

THE SONG THAT REMINDS ME OF HOME

JOHN DENVER

Take Me Home, Country Roads

"I grew up in a pretty Southern town. I used to reject that because I'd moved there from the North East [New Jersey] and got planted in this small backwoods country place [Citrus County, Florida] with people wearing camouflage and riding around with rebel flags. But now I really love that genteel Southern stuff."

THE SONG I DO AT KARAOKE

BON JOVI

Livin' On A Prayer

"I did this in a bar at college and loved it. I'm not sure I could get away with it again! If I was really gonna go for it now I'd do 'Mustang Sally' by Wilson Pickett. But my lucky song that got me through a few auditions is that Tom Jones classic 'It's Not Unusual.'"

THE SONG THAT MAKES ME WANT TO DANCE

BRETT DENNEN

Must Be Losing My Mind

"I was at a Brett Dennen concert last year at the BottleRock festival in Napa Valley. Had a few drinks, started dancing and ended up on YouTube."



OTIS REDDING

THE SONG I PLAY BEFORE I GO ON SET

OTIS REDDING

(Sittin' On) The Dock Of The Bay

"Music helps when I'm feeling drained and can't conjure up emotion on my own. Otis Redding was inspired by the hippy movement when he wrote this. I love that era: Sam Cooke, Marvin Gaye, Stax Records – the African-American experience of coming through slavery and the civil rights movement of the '50s and '60s... All those guys singing songs about a brighter future. I love all that soul. And gospel. It's inspiring."

THE FIRST SONG I REMEMBER HEARING

ROGER MILLER

King Of The Road

"[Sings] 'Trailer for sale or rent, rooms to let 50 cents. No phone, no pool, no pets, I ain't got no cigarettes...' My mom had these 'Oldies But Goodies' compilation CDs. I discovered a lot of music that way – early Elvis and 'Great Balls Of Fire' by Jerry Lee Lewis."

THE FIRST ALBUM I BOUGHT

OMC

How Bizarre

"OMC ['90s Kiwi pop-rappers] were a one-hit wonder but I loved that song when I was a kid so I bought the album from a mail-order club to start my collection, along with Sublime's self-titled third album, Blues Traveler's 'Four' – the one with 'Run-Around' and 'Hook' on it – The Wallflowers' debut, and Smash Mouth's 'Fush Yu Mang'. The '90s is cool now, right?"

Bleed For This is in cinemas December 2

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The wisdom of the **NME** archives

THIS WEEK

DAVE GROHL

Foo Fighters

November 23, 2002

"I've achieved things way beyond my expectations. If it was all to end tomorrow I'd be pretty stoked."



INTERVIEW: LEONIE COOPER. PHOTOS: REX FEATURES