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NEW

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Hello...



WELL DONE GUYS, you made it! Pat yourselves on the back, take a big swig of some exceptionally strong tea and send a congratulatory message to your favourite WhatsApp group – the end of

2016 is in sight. It was a year blighted by the loss of heroes and political upheaval, but through all the turmoil, there was always hope – hope for a better 2017.

This final *NME* of the year is here to introduce you to the artists, films, TV shows and life tips that will make the next 12 months brilliant, including new music from Eminem, Stormzy, Wolf Alice and Liam Gallagher, amazing cinema in the form of *Trainspotting 2* and *Wonder Woman*, epic TV such as *A Series of Unfortunate Events* and the second series of *Stranger Things*, and brilliant new bands like Cabbage and The Big Moon.

As well as all that, we've got some *NME* heroes – Craig David included – to offer up some advice on how to smash 2017. Don't just have a happy new year – have an outstanding one.

MIKE WILLIAMS
Editor-in-Chief
@itsmikelike



PWR BTM: Making
bigots uncomfortable
since 2013
p38

COVER STORY

18 A massive preview of 2017

Albums. Films. TV. New artists. Gigs. Charli XCX. T2. 13 Reasons Why. Cabbage. Frank Ocean. Eminem. Star Wars. Iron Fist. HMLTD. New Year's Eve. Get involved!

REGULARS

13 On The Record 15 What's On Your Headphones?
17 Things We Like 48 Soundtrack Of My Life

NME

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AGENDA

WHAT EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT THIS WEEK

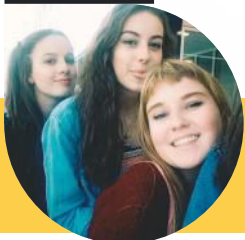
17 ways to make 2017 amazing

According to these absolute legends



SINK THE PINK

1 "Fight against any form of prejudice you see, because staying silent is the most dangerous thing you can do."
GIRLS AGAINST, teen collective fighting sexual harassment at gigs
@girlsagainst



2 "Every year we write a list that we call our 'Who Me Be' (it's a quote from *Ab Fab*, like most of our life guidance). It's a list of stuff we want to do more of in the coming year. It might be deeper stuff like 'be kinder to myself' or 'wear more sequins' – basically these two have the same end goal anyway. But putting it somewhere you can see it every day actually helps make the list come true."
SINK THE PINK, utterly fabulous queer party crew
@sinkthepinkLDN



3 "Don't be afraid to fail and, even more so, don't be afraid to live."
BIG NARSTIE, grime MC
@bignarstie

4 "Take the time to lie back on your sofa and really enjoy an album from start to finish, without distractions. No phone or telly quietly on in the background."
CLARA AMFO, Radio 1's mega mid-morning DJ
@claraamfo



XMAS MARKS THE SPOT

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AGENDA



VIN DIESEL

The trailer for *The Fate Of The Furious*, the eighth film in the mighty franchise, broke the internet.



MADONNA

Named Billboard's Woman of the Year. Used the opportunity to call out sexism and ageism.



BABY GROOT

Guardians Of The Galaxy Vol. 2 character whom fans claim only exists to become merch. Disrespectful.



CRUZ BECKHAM

The little fella's single 'If Every Day Was Christmas' went down badly. It was for charity, though, so leave off.



5 "Just get out in the fresh air. Too many activities now are done indoors in front of a laptop or television screen. It seems like humans are moving so much less than they ever have done. Break that mould and do something physical with yourself. Go for a jog, play some football, do some sprints – as long as you're outside breathing some fresh air."

DAVID HAYE, boxer, Hayemaker
@mrdavidhaye



6 "Go to a dance class. It makes you so, so happy. I went to a couple – I'd never been to any before – and I had the best time of my life. You feel more confident, more loose and it gets all of the endorphins going."

IZZY BIZU, singer-songwriter
@izzybizu



7 "Keep drinking great craft beer. There are so many brilliant, talented independent breweries in the UK. Get out there and drink their beautiful wares. You'll never think to order a mass-produced, industrialised beer again."

LOGAN PLANT, Beavertown Brewery bossman
@loganrplant

8 "Don't be scared to follow your dreams. Do the things you love and you'll find that the right people and circumstances are drawn to you. It all starts with making a choice and then committing to it."

CRAIG DAVID, garage don and positive thinking pro
@craigdavid

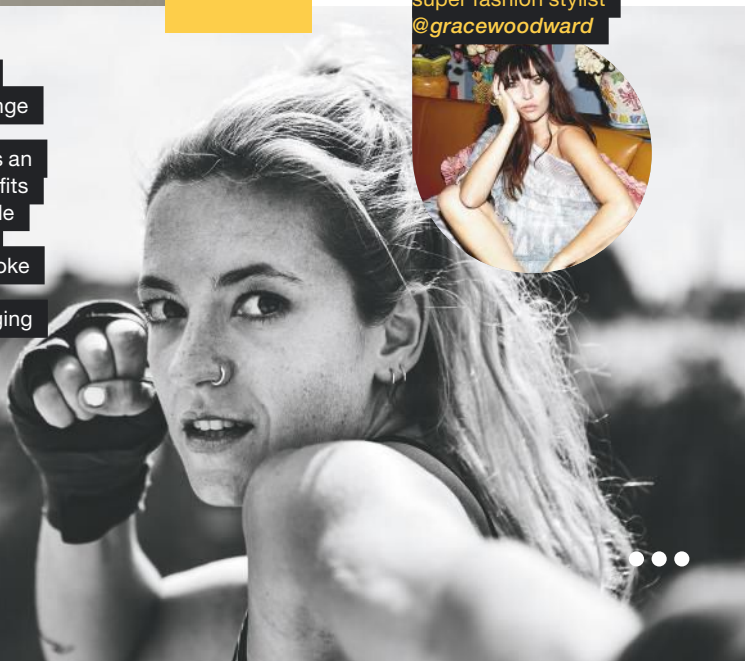
9 "Spend more, buy less. As things look more uncertain, we can be scared of bigger purchases and over-consume disposable stuff. If we're going to hell in a handcart I want to take comfort in something truly amazingly bonkers. Price per wear, it will make you a happier person."

GRACE WOODWARD, super fashion stylist
@gracewoodward



10 "If you hate what you're doing, change it up. Boxing is enjoying a renaissance and is an incredible workout. The benefits of leading an active life include increased energy levels and decreased heart disease, stroke and diabetes risks, not to mention more stamina for raging at gigs and trekking 20k across Glastonbury."

SOPHIE EVERARD, mixed martial artist and extreme sports badass
@sophiemadtolive



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11 "Learn a new language. I'm sick and tired of being on stage and speaking English. If I just made 10 per cent more effort to learn the language of the place that I'm in, people would be like, 'Fair f**king play - you took the time out of your day to learn something new.'"

JOSH FRANCESCHI,
You Me At Six frontman
[@joshmeatsix](https://twitter.com/joshmeatsix)



12 "It's a politically scary time. People need to step away from social media and connect with real human beings. Close the laptop."

FRANK TURNER,
outspoken singer-songwriter
[@frankturner](https://twitter.com/frankturner)



14 "Self-love brings beauty. Once you find inner peace and stop comparing yourself to others, badass confidence will kick in and you can take over the world."

FELICITY HAYWARD, model
and body positive style icon
[@felicityhayward](https://twitter.com/felicityhayward)



16 "Learn to trust your own appetite, tastes and hunger. There's so much misinformation flying around about nutrition and 'good' versus 'bad' foods - the only truth that's constant through all that pseudoscience and conjecture is that, usually, your body knows what you need. Eat the foods that make you feel good in quantities that feel right, and ignore all the rest of the chat."

RUBY TANDO, *Bake Off* boss and author of *Flavour: Eat What You Love*
[@rubytandoh](https://twitter.com/rubytandoh)

PHOTOS: GIGS AGAIN/TWITTER, REX FEATURES, GAVIN WHITNEY, INSTAGRAM, VICTORIA BECKHAM RAY BURMISTON

AGENDA

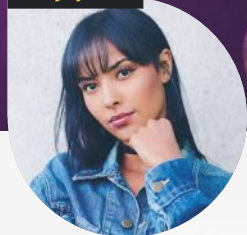


13 "Contribute to making the world a better place by how you eat. I'm going to cut down the amount of meat I eat – I'll save it for Sunday lunch and the odd treat and make sure I'm only eating higher welfare meat that's been treated by a butcher who gives a damn. This will be better for your health and have a considerable positive effect on the environment."

GIZZI ERSKINE,
rock'n'roll chef
@gizzierskine

15 "List everything you're thankful for each morning to start off your day full of gratitude and in the best mood."

MAYA JAMA,
Rinse FM and 4Music host
@mayajama



17 "Believe in yourself and your uniqueness, and get organised with your finances – there are plenty of apps out there to help. Look ahead and make a list of three things you want to achieve over the next 6-12 months. Be brave and go for it!"

JAMAL EDWARDS, SB.TV
founder and entrepreneur
@jamaledwards



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An ad,

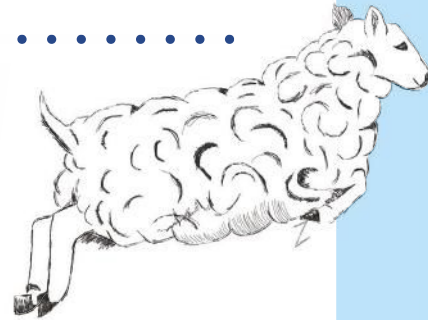
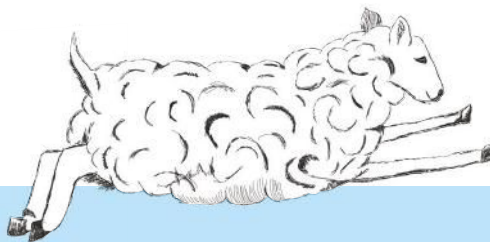
or a way to sleep off the Christmas party?

We made our choice.

Just rest this on your lap and start counting those sheep

Please wake me up at:

.....



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Biffy Clyro will play an acoustic set at the V05 NME Awards 2017 nomination party on Jan 12

Nikon PRESENTS V05 NME AWARDS 2017 NOMINATIONS PARTY

Win tickets!

It's gonna be a helluva night

ON JANUARY 12 THE shortlist for the V05 NME Awards 2017 will be announced, and to celebrate we're having a party. Biffy Clyro are invited and so are you. Wanna come? Just go to nme.com/win and follow the instructions. See you there!

The big questions

When and where is the V05 NME Awards 2017 nominations party?

January 12, at Omeara, near London's Borough Market.

When and where are the V05 NME Awards 2017?

O2 Academy Brixton, February 15.

How do I get tickets?

NME.com/tickets. But hurry – early bird tickets are already sold out.

How does voting work?

In two rounds: there's an open vote to decide the shortlists (which will be announced at the Biffy party on January 12), then a final vote to decide the winners. It's just a little bit less complicated than the US presidential elections.

What categories can I vote in right now?

These are the biggies:

BEST BRITISH BAND

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BEST BRITISH FEMALE ARTIST

BEST BRITISH MALE ARTIST

Supported by  PILOT

BEST INTERNATIONAL BAND

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- ONE MUSIC CAPITAL OF THE WORLD -

BEST INTERNATIONAL FEMALE ARTIST

Supported by  V05

BEST INTERNATIONAL MALE ARTIST

Supported by  V05

BEST NEW ARTIST

BEST LIVE BAND

Supported by  Nikon

How do I vote?

Go here: awards.NME.com

PHOTOS: REX FEATURES

Last W33K IN NUMBERS

3

Number of pop-up shops The 1975 have opened: in London, Manchester and Los Angeles.

1.25m

Number of CDs 2016's bestseller 'Mozart 225: The New Complete Edition' sold this year.

0

Number of people Noel Gallagher thinks was a genius in Oasis, "not even me".

29,000

'Likes' Jennifer Lawrence got when she apologised for scratching her arse on a sacred Hawaiian rock.



the
fopp
100

best of 2016

**nick cave &
the bad seeds**
skeleton tree

album of the year



**christine and
the queens**
chaleur humaine

**bat for
lashes**
the bride

margo price
midwest farmer's
daughter



the last shadow puppets
everything you've come
to expect



**thee oh
sees**
a weird exits

skepta
konnichiwa

lambchop
flotus



savages
adore life

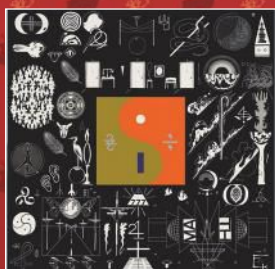


BIFFY CLYRO



ELLIPSIS

biffy clyro
ellipsis



anohni
hopelessness

bon iver
22, a million



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oxford gloucester green

the fopp list

see our complete top 100 albums of the year in this
month's edition of the fopp list or online at fopp.com

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fopp.com



ON THE RECORD



THIS WEEK

2016 wasn't totally s**t, but 2017 will be better

2016 HAS GOT KIND OF A bad reputation. 2016 is the leather-jacket-wearing, Marlboro-smoking bad kid who hangs around outside the local branch of Spar asking grown-ups to buy bottles of White Ace on their behalf. But maybe, deep down, underneath all the death, destruction and global mayhem that 2016 caused when it wasn't busy getting s**tfaced by the swings on budget cider, 2016 was actually just misunderstood. See, for all its flaws, 2016 wasn't a totally shameless d**k. 2016 actually did some incredible things. I reckon 2016 should be cut a little slack.

This was the year that the Standing Rock protests in North Dakota proved that non-violent people power really works, as

indigenous campaigners won out over an energy company that wanted to build a pipeline through their ancient lands. The year eternal underdogs Leicester City topped the Premier League. The year ravers paradise Fabric got saved. The year grassroots teenage activists Girls Against took the British gig circuit by storm in an attempt to put an end to sexual assault at shows. The year a police officer dropped to one knee and proposed to his boyfriend during London Pride and made everyone's hearts feel so very full of love. The year *Stranger Things* made us believe in great telly. The year 800,000 volunteers planted 50million trees in India over the course of

"Look at the excellence that sneaked through the cracks"

BIG OPINIONS. NO FILTER.



PC Phil Adlem proposed to boyfriend Jonathan Sammons at London Pride in June

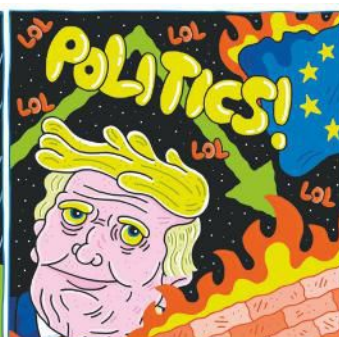
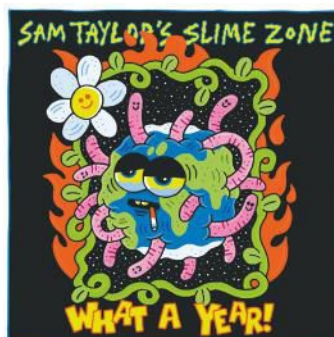
just 24 hours.

The year funds raised by the Ice Bucket Challenge actually helped score a significant breakthrough in the battle against the disease ALS. The year Danny Dyer found out he was royalty, kinda. The year more young people watched *Planet Earth 2* than *The X Factor*, proving that the kids are not only alright, but also heavily interested in the day-to-day habits of peregrine falcons. The year Frank Ocean put us out of our misery and released the follow-up to 'Channel Orange'.

The year Tim Peake had a lovely time in space. The year Wales

gloriously got to the semi-finals of the Euros. The year it was declared giant pandas were no longer endangered. The year the Paris Agreement – a serious global measure to combat climate change – came into force. Hell, it was even the year in which Leonardo DiCaprio finally won an Oscar. Of course, let's not forget all the crap and misery that 2016 also offered up, but let's stop for a minute and look at the excellence that managed to sneak through the cracks. All we can do now is build on those triumphs and make 2017 the utterly fabulous, nonsense-free year that all of us deserve. @leoniemaycooper

PHOTO: YOUTUBE



"THE FUNNIEST FILM OF THE YEAR"

Daily Mirror



"HYSTERICALLY FUNNY"

Heat



"BY FAR, THE FUNNIEST FILM OF THE YEAR"

Daily Star



"BRENT'S BIG SCREEN DEBUT IS A SPOT-ON TRIUMPH"

Metro Online



"TOE-TWISTINGLY FUNNY"

The Telegraph



"THE BEST COMEDY OF THE YEAR"

The Sun



"BRENT IS BACK! AND NOT A MINUTE TOO SOON"

The Times

David Brent

LIFE ON THE ROAD

AVAILABLE TO RENT NOW

VIRGIN MOVIES



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YOUR TOWN. YOUR MUSIC. YOUR STYLE

What's ON your Headphones?

THIS WEEK

Canterbury

"You can't get bored here"

CARLY BAX >

29, full-time mum

Listening to:
LITTLE MIX
Shout Out To My Ex
"It's catchy and every girl can relate to it."

Wearing: New Look jacket, and choker, Primark dress, T-shirt and bag.
Best thing about Canterbury: "You can't get bored in Canterbury."
New Year's resolution: "To be more positive."

BRYN LLEWELLYN >

20, student

Listening to:
DIGITALISM
Pogo
"I discovered them through playing FIFA and looked them up on Spotify."

Wearing: charity shop jacket, H&M jumper and jeans.

Best thing about Canterbury: "There are lots of cool little places to hang, like The Foundry."

New Year's resolution: "Stop procrastinating."

< ANE MARTINSEN

21, student

Listening to:
LEMAITRE
Closer
"It has almost a big band feel to it."

Wearing: New Look coat and scarf, Urban Outfitters shirt, Topshop jeans, Marks & Spencer boots.
Best thing about Canterbury: "I really like the history of it and that it has so many old buildings. It's such a beautiful city."
New Year's resolution: "To call my parents more."

CASPAR HART >

25, roadie and market trader

Listening to
GANG
Enough Nothing EP
"It's beautiful, sludgy doom amazingness."

Wearing: vintage coat and scarf, Levi's jacket.
Best thing about Canterbury: "It's got an up-and-coming music scene. Lady Luck is the place to go."
New Year's resolution: "Don't be so naughty."

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SNAP FASHION

Back to black

No one wears a leather jacket as well as The 1975's Matt Healy. Use the Snap Fashion app to find one that'll make you look as sexy as Wilmslow's finest



RIVER ISLAND
at Snap Fashion £75



TOPMAN
at Snap Fashion £120



TOPMAN
at Snap Fashion £180



PRETTY GREEN AT USC
at Snap Fashion £325



ALLSAINTS
at Snap Fashion £345



BOOHOO MAN
at Snap Fashion £50



TOPSHOP
at Snap Fashion £595



BELSTAFF
at Snap Fashion £1,050



FRENCH CONNECTION
at Snap Fashion £62

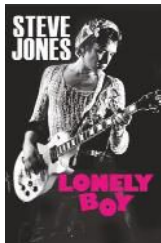


MCQ AT MATCHES
at Snap Fashion £625



THINGS WE LIKE

THIS WEEK'S OBJECTS OF DESIRE



Punk poetry

Lonely Boy is Sex Pistol Steve Jones's funny, filthy-mouthed memoir.

£15.99 waterstones.com



Keep watch

Goodhood and Timex's OG Camper watch is pure class.

£59.99 goodhoodstore.com



In the pink

Umbro and House Of Holland have come together to make this lush sweatshirt.

£93 asos.com



Electric dreams

Complete with a year's subscription, Electric Jukebox streams music via your TV.

£169 electricjukebox.com



Lemmy entertain you

Motörhead's new line of sex toys is out now. It's what Lemmy would have wanted.

£39.99 lovehoney.co.uk



Snap happy

Kodak's Ektra is its very first smartphone, with, of course, a sick camera function.

£449 kodak.com



Sweet fantasy

Mariah Carey's new line of cosmetics with MAC includes this Dreamlover lipgloss.

£16.50 maccosmetics.co.uk



Skywalker shoes

Superga's *Star Wars*-inspired sneakers are the pinnacle of geek chic.

£89 superga.co.uk



Whisky smash

Kentucky bourbon Old Forester is one for sipping around the fire this Xmas.

£29.99 tesco.com



Golf sale

Like *Star Wars*? Like golf? Then these 12 Yoda balls will make your game intergalactic.

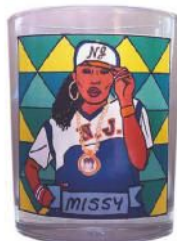
£24.99 taylormadegolf.co.uk



Leathered up

All Saints' McGuire biker jacket has a furry lining that'll keep you toasty this winter.

£598 allsaints.com



Super flame

Flaming Idols' range of votive candle holders includes this sweet tribute to Missy Elliott.

£8.29 etsy.com



Crushing it

These Crusher wireless headphones have a whopping 40 hours of battery life.

£119.99 skullcandy.co.uk



Booty-licious

Shellys London's Rewind collection boasts these fiercely festive Rex boots.

£129 shellyslondon.co.uk

A MASSIVE PREVIEW OF 2017

Start preparing
for the greatest
year of your lives



2017 ALBUMS

22 records that are reasonably likely to blow your mind

CHARLI XCX

EXPECT IT: May
Pop's most exciting, innovative and dangerous star will return with an album she says is influenced by Paris Hilton and is "the most pop thing I've done". Production has been done by the likes of BloodPop, Stargate and PC Music's SOPHIE, who Charli collaborated with on this year's bats**t bonkers 'Vroom Vroom' EP.

EMINEM

EXPECT IT: TBC
The 44-year-old recently shared a new eight-minute track in the form of 'Campaign Speech'. "Don't worry, I'm working on an album! Here's something meanwhile," Eminem tweeted along with the song, on which he still sounds like an angry motherf**ker.

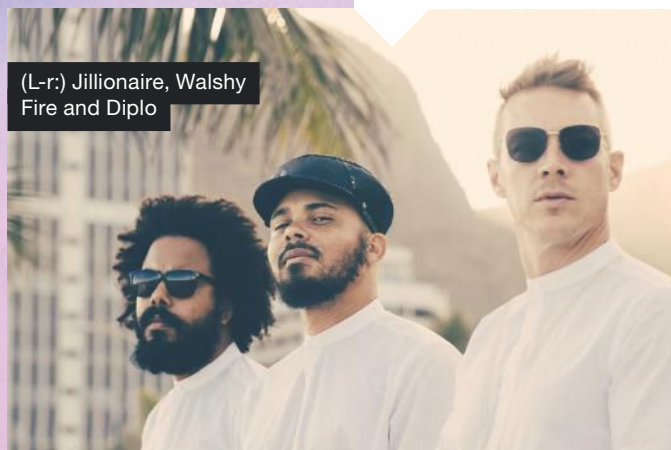
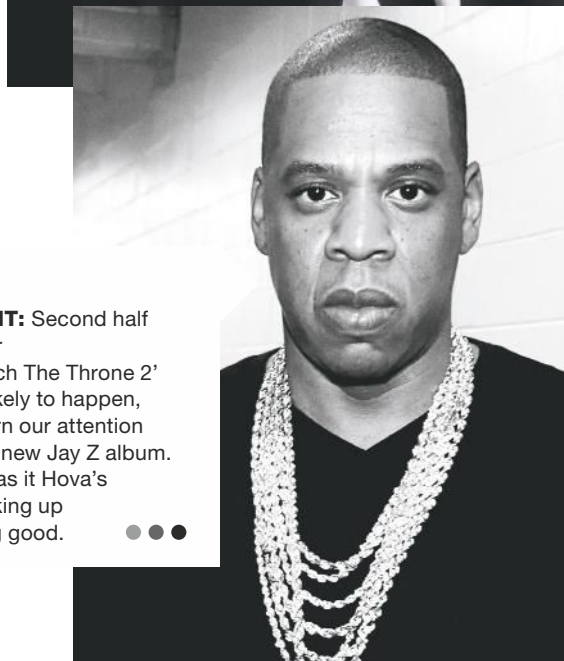
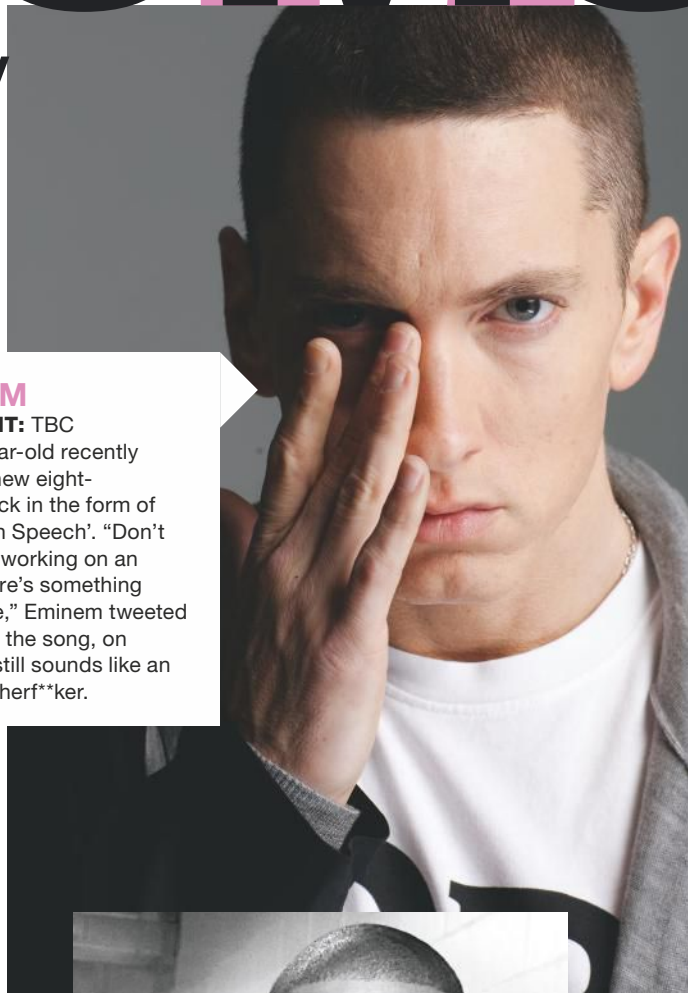
MAJOR LAZER

EXPECT IT: Jan
Diplo's EDM crew have already shared one of the tracks that's expected to make it onto their new album 'Music Is The Weapon': 'Cold Water', their gigantic collaboration with MØ and Justin Bieber. A promising teaser.

(L-r:) Jillionaire, Walshy Fire and Diplo

JAY Z

EXPECT IT: Second half of the year
Now 'Watch The Throne 2' looks unlikely to happen, we can turn our attention towards a new Jay Z album. Rumour has it Hova's been cooking up something good.



ALBUMS 2017

(L-r:) Killer
Mike and El-P

RUN THE JEWELS

EXPECT IT: Jan 13

'RTJ3' is prepped and ready to go, and with everything happening America right now you can expect some deep and essential political fire. 'Talk To Me' and 'Legend Has It' are both out there already, and both are immense.



(L-r:) Joel Amey,
Ellie Rowsell,
Joff Oddie and
Theo Ellis



ELBOW

EXPECT IT: First half of the year

"Chunky" and "beat-heavy" aren't words you associate with Elbow, but that might be about to change. "There's a sparseness to the songs, which perhaps we're not known for," Guy Garvey told Jo Whiley recently. "The themes are as wide ranging as always; great big themes and concerns for the world at the same time as falling in love, and looking forwards and backwards."

THE XX

EXPECT IT: Jan 13

'On Hold' – the first proper taste of 'I See You', The xx's first album in four years – is the sound of the trio at their deliciously gloomy best, but with an extra fat dose of producer Jamie xx's skittering, sample-heavy production. They're shuffling closer and closer to the dancefloor.



(L-r:) Jamie xx,
Romy Madley Croft
and Oliver Sim



SPIRITUALIZED

EXPECT IT: Jun 16

Jason Pierce's shoegaze legends celebrate the 20th birthday of their 1997 album 'Ladies And Gentlemen We Are Floating In Space' on June 16, and will release an as-yet-untitled new album to mark the event.



WOLF ALICE

EXPECT IT: Summer

The north London band are hard at work on the follow-up to debut album 'My Love Is Cool', which did a great job of conquering the world. They played new and likely-to-be-on-the-record tune 'Yuk Foo' on their US tour last spring, which leans towards the heavier end of their oeuvre and howls like their classic 'You're A Germ'.

DUA LIPA

EXPECT IT: Feb

One of British pop's brightest new stars has already made her case for being one to watch with the singles 'Hotter Than Hell' and 'Blow Your Mind (Mwah)'. Big things await.



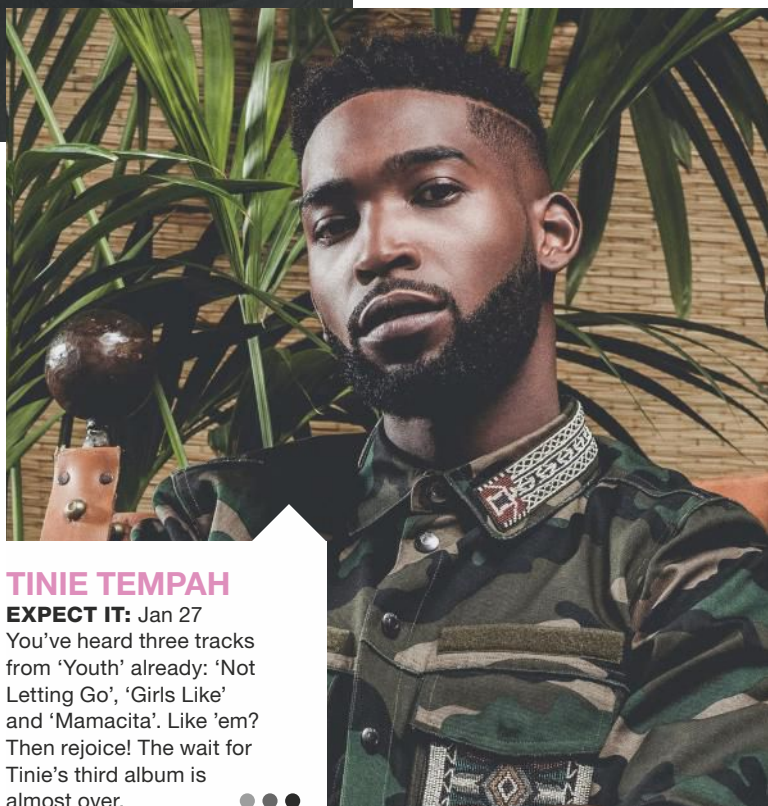
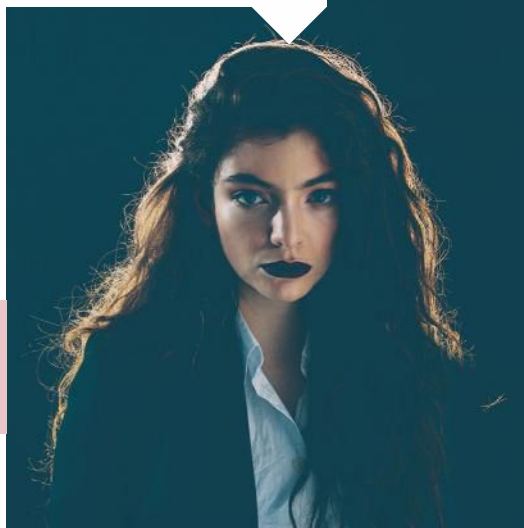
STORMZY

EXPECT IT: First half of the year

Last year the grime MC told *i-D* magazine: "I can't wait to get [my debut album] out. I want to give the world a body of work that you can refer to and say it's Stormzy, in the same way you look at 'Illmatic' and say that's Nas or 'Boy In Da Corner' and that was Dizzee – an aggy little s**t with a bone to pick." Cannot wait.

LORDE

EXPECT IT: First half the year
Rumour has it the Kiwi star will do a Beyoncé and Frank Ocean and surprise-release her next record. If it's anything like 2013's 'Pure Heroine', it'll be the best pop album you've heard in ages.



TINIE TEMPAH

EXPECT IT: Jan 27

You've heard three tracks from 'Youth' already: 'Not Letting Go', 'Girls Like' and 'Mamacita'. Like 'em? Then rejoice! The wait for Tinie's third album is almost over.



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ALBUMS 2017



(L-r) Brandon Flowers, Ronnie Vannucci Jr, Dave Keuning and Mark Stoermer

THE KILLERS

EXPECT IT: Second half of the year
Las Vegas's finest began recording their fifth album in September and Brandon Flowers says he wants to "take the experience of playing over 1,000 shows and mix that with the enthusiasm we had making our first album". Can they reach the dizzy heights of 'Hot Fuss' all over again?

LCD SOUNDSYSTEM

EXPECT IT: Summer
When New York City dance titans LCD Soundsystem reunited at the start of 2016, leader James Murphy put out a statement saying a record would be out by the end of the year. Hasn't happened. But they're in the studio, so things are moving. We have faith it'll be worth the wait.



Flaming Lips' Wayne Coyne and pals

HARRY STYLES

EXPECT IT: Second half of the year
First came Zayn Malik. Next in the solo album battle between ex One Directioners, it's Harry's turn. The record already has two things going for it. Firstly, both Bruno Mars and mega-producer Max Martin (he of 'Shake It Off' and '...Baby One More Time') are rumoured to be working on it. Secondly, Styles has outstanding hair. He can't fail.



(L-r:) Adam Clayton, Larry Mullen Jr, Bono and The Edge

U2

EXPECT IT: First half of the year
Bono and chums have every intention of following their 2014 album 'Songs Of Innocence' with 'Songs Of Experience'. They have, they say, written over 50 songs for it. Hopefully they'll give that a bit of an edit.



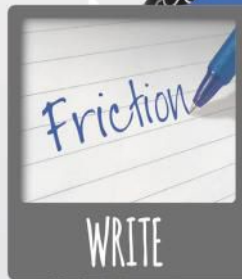
THE FLAMING LIPS

EXPECT IT: Jan 13
According to frontman Wayne Coyne, 'Oczy Mlody' sounds like, "Syd Barrett meets A\$AP Rocky and they get trapped in a fairytale from the future". The title of the record is Polish for "eyes of the young", of course.

I'VE GOT
FRIXION

I'VE GOT THE
POWER

#HAPPYWRITING



FRIXION



ALBUMS 2017



(L-r): Michael Shuman, Troy Van Leeuwen, Jon Theodore, Josh Homme and Dean Fertita

QUEENS OF THE STONE AGE

EXPECT IT: Second half of the year
Guitarist Troy Van Leeuwen recently revealed the Josh Homme-led band would begin recording their next album before 2016 is out. Don't expect it to sound like 2013's '...Like Clockwork', though – he's said they're aiming for something "simpler".



(L-r): Mick Fleetwood, Stevie Nicks, Lindsey Buckingham, John McVie and Christine McVie

FLEETWOOD MAC

EXPECT IT: Second half of the year
According to their singer Christine McVie, the soft rock titans have recorded "a fantastic variety of songs" for their first new album since 2003's 'Say You Will'.

SKY FERREIRA

EXPECT IT: Spring
The long wait for the follow-up to 2013's excellent 'Night Time, My Time' should end with 'Masochism'. After a couple of false starts, the 24-year-old's second album is, we hear, ready to blow minds.

LIAM GALLAGHER

EXPECT IT: Spring
Alan McGee, former head of Creation – the label that signed Oasis – reckons Liam's solo debut will, quite simply, "be Liam". He also thinks: "The press will probably f**king hate it, but they hate everything anyway. I don't think people care any more. Music's judged by social media now, not by *The Guardian*." ●●●



2017 FILMS

21 reasons to spend some squiller at your local multiplex



MANCHESTER BY THE SEA

STARRING: Casey Affleck, Lucas Hedges, Michelle Williams

RELEASE DATE: Jan 13

Early reviews have been tipping the film and its cast for Oscars victory. Lee Chandler (Casey Affleck) is made legal guardian of his nephew Patrick (Lucas Hedges) after his brother Joe dies suddenly. He begrudgingly returns to his hometown to look after Patrick and deal with Joe's estranged wife Randi (Michelle Williams).

JACKIE

STARRING: Natalie Portman

RELEASE DATE: Jan 20

First Lady Jackie Kennedy Onassis was well known for her elegance, so casting Natalie Portman to play her seems more than fitting. *Jackie* follows her through the days immediately after her husband's assassination as she tries to cope with the events, look after their children and maintain JFK's legacy.



(L-r:) Jonny Lee Miller as Sick Boy and Ewan McGregor as Renton

LA LA LAND

STARRING: Ryan Gosling, Emma Stone

RELEASE DATE: Jan 13

Another Oscars contender, due to Ryan Gosling and Emma Stone's winning performances as a jazz musician and actress trying to stay together as each finds success in their careers.





T2: TRAINSPOTTING

STARRING: Ewan McGregor, Robert Carlyle, Jonny Lee Miller

RELEASE DATE: Jan 27
One of the most highly anticipated films of the year. Thank God, then, it arrives in January to answer all our questions about what Sick Boy, Begbie and co have been doing for the last 20 years.

RULES DON'T APPLY

STARRING: Lily Collins, Alden Ehrenreich

RELEASE DATE: Jan 27
Lily Collins is aspiring actress Marla Mabrey, whose life is changed when billionaire eccentric Howard Hughes pays for her to live in LA and attend acting and ballet classes. There, she's assigned a driver in Frank Forbes (Alden Ehrenreich), with whom she falls in love, despite Hughes' rule against his charges beginning relationships. From the trailer, it looks like a winning, beautifully shot tale of forbidden love.



THE FOUNDER

STARRING: Michael Keaton
RELEASE DATE: Feb 7

It's based on the true story of Ray Kroc, who made McDonald's a global phenomenon, so it'll give you something to think about next time you're grabbing that 2am Big Mac. Plus, it stars Nick Offerman (AKA *Parks And Recreation*'s Ron Swanson) as one of the chain's original founders, the McDonald brothers.



FENCES

STARRING: Denzel Washington, Viola Davis

RELEASE DATE: Feb 10
Denzel Washington plays a former baseball player turned bin man. The trailer suggests lots of drama between him and his son and wife (Viola Davis), so you might want to keep tissues at hand just in case.





BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

STARRING: Emma Watson

RELEASE DATE: Mar 17

Emma Watson, who plays Belle, had some input in updating this Disney classic for the 21st century. In this version, Belle is given more of a backstory than just being an outsider – this time it's she, not her father, who's an inventor.



GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2

STARRING: Chris Pratt

RELEASE DATE: Apr 28

The gang returns two months after the original film, struggling to stay together as half-alien leader Peter Quill (Chris Pratt) discovers who his parents really were. Marvel's promised that plenty of fan-favourite characters from the comic books will pop up, too.



PERSONAL SHOPPER

STARRING: Kristen Stewart

RELEASE DATE: Mar 17

Maureen (Kristen Stewart) is a young American who works as a personal shopper and PA in Paris. She's also trying to contact her dead twin brother, who died in the handily spooky old house they grew up in, which is the part of the film that will give you the heebie-jeebies according to its many five-star reviews.



(L-r:) The Flash (Ezra Miller), Superman (Henry Cavill), Cyborg (Ray Fisher), Wonder Woman (Gal Gadot), Batman (Ben Affleck) and Aquaman (Jason Momoa)

FILMS 2017



A CURE FOR WELLNESS

STARRING: Dane DeHaan, Jason Isaacs, Mia Goth

RELEASE DATE: Mar 24

The trailer for this psychological thriller about a young executive sent to get his company's CEO from a wellness centre in the Swiss Alps is creepy as f**k, not least because of the excellent use of an eerie version of the Ramones' 'I Wanna Be Sedated' soundtracking it. Expect this to be the first truly unsettling film of 2017.



HIDDEN FIGURES

STARRING: Taraji P Henson, Octavia Spencer, Janelle Monáe

RELEASE DATE: Feb 24
Henson, Spencer and Monáe portray the African-American women who worked as mathematicians at NASA and helped the US put a man in space. Their story has never been told on the big screen before, so it should be an inspiring, empowering watch.

(L-r:) Janelle Monáe, Taraji P Henson and Octavia Spencer



JUSTICE LEAGUE

STARRING: Ezra Miller, Ben Affleck, Gal Gadot

RELEASE DATE: Nov 17

A bunch of superheroes try and save the world. Expect to see Batman, Wonder Woman, Cyborg and The Flash all battling together for the greater good.



(L-r:) Jon Bass, Alexandra Daddario, Zac Efron, Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson, Kelly Rohrbach, Ilfenesh Hadera



BAYWATCH

STARRING: Dwayne Johnson, Zac Efron, Priyanka Chopra, Kelly Rohrbach

RELEASE DATE: May 12
It's brilliantly cheesy '90s TV show *Baywatch* on the big screen. You need more? OK: Dwayne Johnson and Zac Efron are the buff, bronzed lifeguards running in slow-mo across the beach, flanked by Bollywood superstar Priyanka Chopra and model-turned-actress Kelly Rohrbach. Adding extra kitsch appeal, original stars David Hasselhoff and Pamela Anderson have cameos.

WONDER WOMAN

STARRING: Gal Gadot, Chris Pine

RELEASE DATE: June 2
As superhero films continue to reign at the box office, DC has finally upgraded its iconic female from a supporting role in *Justice League* and *Batman V Superman* to the star of her own film. And quite right too. Gal Gadot helps an American pilot try to end a world war.



LOGAN

STARRING: Hugh Jackman, Patrick Stewart

RELEASE DATE: Mar 2
It's been 17 years since Hugh Jackman first played Wolverine in 2000's *X-Men*, but this film marks his final appearance as the bearded, clawed mutant. He's joined by Patrick Stewart's Professor X and Stephen Merchant's albino mutant Caliban in what looks like the darkest *Wolverine* film yet.

KONG: SKULL ISLAND

STARRING:

Tom Hiddleston, Samuel L. Jackson, Brie Larson

RELEASE DATE:

Mar 10
This lavish King Kong reboot is an origin story with an A-list cast. Tom Hiddleston and Samuel L. Jackson play explorers who happen upon the mythic giant gorilla while heading into uncharted territory in the Pacific Ocean. Oscar winner Brie Larson adds class as a photojournalist who accompanies them.



(L-r): Tom Hiddleston, Brie Larson



THE MUMMY

STARRING: Tom Cruise, Russell Crowe, Sofia Boutella
RELEASE DATE: Jun 9

Cruise and Crowe join forces in this intriguing supernatural reboot. *Star Trek Beyond*'s Sofia Boutella plays the title character, an ancient queen who unleashes chaos when a squad of military commandos accidentally awaken her in the present day.



DUNKIRK

STARRING: Harry Styles, Tom Hardy, Cillian Murphy, Mark Rylance, Kenneth Branagh
RELEASE DATE: Jul 21
It's Styles' first part in a major film, which is intriguing if nothing else. Hardy, Murphy, Rylance and Branagh join him to retell the story of Allied soldiers evacuated from Dunkirk after being cut off from the French mainland by the German army in 1940.



VALERIAN

STARRING: Rihanna, Cara Delevingne, Dane DeHaan, Ethan Hawke
RELEASE DATE: Jul 21
RiRi plays an alien dancer, so we're sold already. If you need more to entice you, it's based on the classic graphic novel *Valérian And Laureline* and stars Cara Delevingne, Dane DeHaan and Ethan Hawke.



STAR WARS: EPISODE VIII

STARRING: Daisy Ridley, Adam Driver, Carrie Fisher
RELEASE DATE: Dec 15
Rey continues the journey she embarked on in *The Force Awakens* with the help of Finn, Poe and Luke Skywalker. It's directed by Rian Johnson, who's worked on *Breaking Bad* in the past, so will continue the great work Abrams did on its predecessor.



2017

19 shows that could keep you inside all damn year



LEGION

CHANNEL: FX

STARRING: Dan Stevens, Rachel Keller, Jean Smart

WHEN IT'S ON: Feb
Yep, another superhero show, but *Legion* is no strutting villain puncher – he's a hugely troubled young man suffering from dissociative identity disorder, with each of his countless personas possessing its own (often bizarre) superpower. Indicative of *Legion*'s eccentricity: Aubrey Plaza and Jemaine Clement have recurring roles.



OZARK

CHANNEL: Netflix

STARRING: Jason Bateman, Laura Linney

WHEN IT'S ON: Second half of 2017

Leaving behind comedy for something grim 'n' grittier, Jason Bateman directs and stars in this drama about a married man haplessly caught up in the world of money laundering and forced to move to Missouri to pay a debt to a dangerous drug lord. We're getting *Breaking Bad* vibes.



13 REASONS WHY

CHANNEL: Netflix

STARRING: Katherine Langford, Dylan Minnette

WHEN IT'S ON: TBC
Produced by Selena Gomez and *Spotlight* director Tom McCarthy, this brooding teen drama, based on a 2007 young adult novel, tells the story of high-schooler Hannah Baker, who commits suicide after carefully documenting her reasons for doing so on 13 cassette tapes, each directly addressing one of her peers. Angry slamming of lockers is a given.



BIG LITTLE LIES

CHANNEL: Sky Atlantic

STARRING: Reese Witherspoon, Nicole Kidman, Alexander Skarsgård

WHEN IT'S ON: Feb
Boasting the most prestigious cast of 2017, HBO's buzzed-over new show is a jet-black comedy set among a group of rich, adulterous and potentially murderous mums. Cinema-worthy direction comes courtesy of Jean-Marc Vallée (*Wild*, *Dallas Buyers Club*).

FRONTIER

CHANNEL: Netflix

STARRING: Jason Momoa, Zoe Boyle

WHEN IT'S ON: Jan 20
Hunksome Jason Momoa plays a fur trader in 18th-century North America, where violence is endemic and business negotiations regularly devolve into murder. Sweeping historical drama, then, with lashings of *Game Of Thrones* gore on top.



Jason Momoa plays an aggy fur trader

A large photograph of Neil Patrick Harris as Count Olaf from the Netflix series 'A Series of Unfortunate Events'. He is bald, has a long grey beard, and wears round glasses and a tan jacket. He is leaning over a stone ledge, looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background shows a building facade with a window and some hanging plants.

A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS

CHANNEL: Netflix

STARRING: Neil Patrick Harris, Malina Weissman

WHEN IT'S ON: Jan 13

Based on Lemony Snicket's gleefully dark (and adult-friendly) children's books, *A Series Of Unfortunate Events* stars Harris as fiendish Count Olaf, determined to swindle the orphaned Baudelaire siblings out of their inheritance by *any* means. Expect dastardliness.

Neil Patrick Harris gives good beard as Count Olaf

IRON FIST

CHANNEL: Netflix

STARRING: Finn Jones, Jessica Henwick

WHEN IT'S ON: Mar 17

The fourth Netflix show based on Marvel's 'street-level' heroes stars Finn Jones (*Game Of Thrones*' Loras Tyrell) as the protagonist. He's a superpowered martial artist dedicated to spinn-kicking bad'uns in his NYC neighbourhood. Iron Fist will also be teaming up with Jessica Jones, *Daredevil* and Luke Cage for *The Defenders*, arriving on Netflix later in 2017.



CRASHING

CHANNEL: Sky Atlantic

STARRING: Pete Holmes, Lauren Lapkus

WHEN IT'S ON: Feb
We're not short of edgy sitcoms in which stand-ups play exaggerated versions of themselves – *Louie*, *Master Of None*, *Maron*, *Lady Dynamite* – but as they're all pretty great we can handle one more. Co-produced by Judd Apatow, *Crashing* stars comedian Pete Holmes as a comedian (obvs) whose wife leaves him for a boxer.



Finn Jones is Marvel badass Iron Fist



DEAR WHITE PEOPLE

CHANNEL: Netflix

STARRING: Logan Browning, Antoinette Robinson, Brandon P Bell

WHEN IT'S ON: TBC

A spin-off from the acclaimed 2014 indie flick, this series focuses on a diverse group of non-white students dealing with racial awks at a very white Ivy League college. Fans of the film will be happy to learn that its writer/director Justin Simien (above) is again on screenwriting duties here.



MINDHUNTER

CHANNEL: Netflix

STARRING: Anna Torv, Cotter Smith

WHEN IT'S ON: Late 2017
Its title sounds like that of a crappy Syfy show, but this actually looks great: produced by Charlize Theron and David Fincher, it's a drama following two FBI agents as they crack cases by interviewing imprisoned serial killers.

THE PUNISHER

CHANNEL: Netflix

STARRING: Jason Bernthal, Jaime Ray Newman, Jason R Moore

WHEN IT'S ON: Late 2017
With his guest appearances on *Daredevil* proving wildly popular, Marvel's trigger-happy vigilante gets a series of his own. Few details have emerged as yet, aside from Jason Bernthal reprising his winningly deranged performance as Frank 'Punisher' Castle.



Vanessa Hudgens and Danny Pudi in *Powerless*

POWERLESS

CHANNEL: TBC

STARRING: Vanessa Hudgens, Danny Pudi, Alan Tudyk

WHEN IT'S ON: TBC

A sitcom about a failing insurance company, set (twist!) in the DC universe. Imagine *The Office* with a distant backdrop of super-powered punch-ups. The UK broadcaster has yet to be announced, but we'd be amazed if this doesn't get picked up over here.



BIG MOUTH

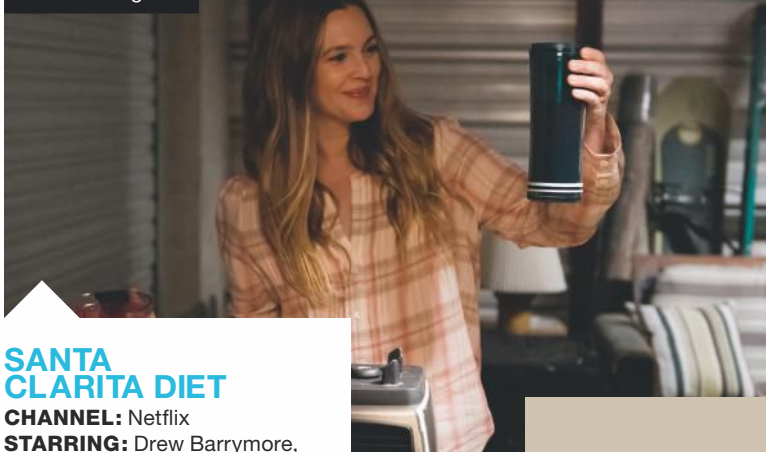
CHANNEL: Netflix

STARRING: Nick Kroll, John Mulaney, Maya Rudolph

WHEN IT'S ON: TBC

From the pop-culture-warped minds of *Family Guy*, writer Andrew Goldberg and comedian Nick Kroll (above), comes an animated show about two teenage pals traversing puberty together. Expect surreal digressions and cringing bodily mishaps.

Drew Barrymore is back in the game



SANTA CLARITA DIET

CHANNEL: Netflix

STARRING: Drew Barrymore, Timothy Olyphant

WHEN IT'S ON: Feb 3

Barrymore and Olyphant are married real-estate agents whose world implodes when Barrymore goes through "a dramatic change" – what that entails, Netflix ain't sayin'. The showrunner is Victor Franco – creator of acclaimed cult sitcom *Better Off Ted* – so the laughs should be frequent and ingenious.



GIRLS

CHANNEL: Sky Atlantic

STARRING: Lena Dunham, Allison Williams, Adam Driver

WHEN IT'S ON: Late 2017
The final season! It's a tearful farewell to Hannah, Jessa, Shoshanna and the rest of those mixed-up millennials. Can we expect a happy ending? A bleak ending? A bittersweet ending? Turns out it was all a dream? Who knows. Probably not that last one, though.



Jason Bernthal is The Punisher

The real-life El Chapo being carted away in 2015



EL CHAPO

CHANNEL: Netflix

STARRING: TBC

WHEN IT'S ON: TBC

Following the success of *Narcos* – the story of Colombian drug kingpin Pablo Escobar – Netflix is now dramatising the crazy-ass life of Mexican drug lord Joaquin 'El Chapo' Guzmán, described by the US government as “the most ruthless, dangerous, feared man on the planet”.



GYPSY

CHANNEL: Netflix

STARRING: Naomi Watts, Billy Crudup

WHEN IT'S ON: TBC

This 10-episode drama series stars Naomi Watts as a therapist who develops obsessive and dangerous relationships with the people in her patients' lives. Keen armchair psychoanalyst? *Gypsy* should be right up your street.

THE LAST KINGDOM

CHANNEL: BBC Two

STARRING:

Alexander Dreymon, David Dawson, Emily Cox

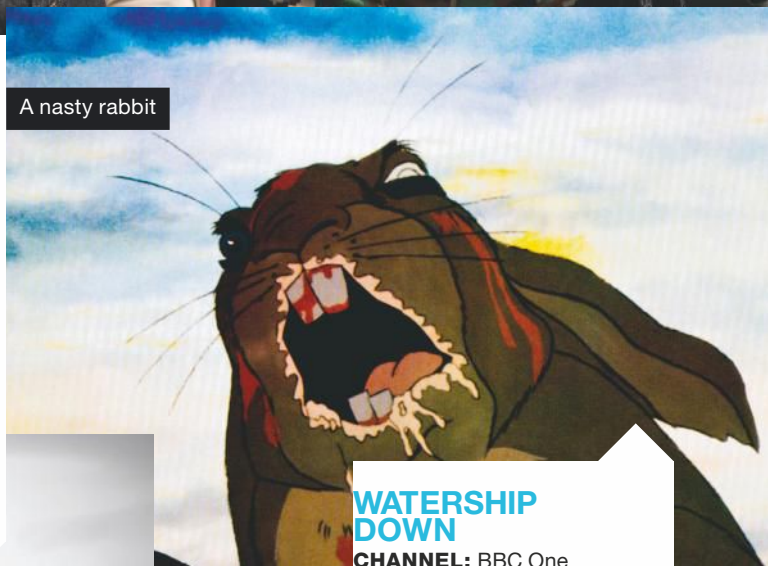
WHEN IT'S ON: TBC

The bloody Vikings vs Saxons series returns for a second swing of the axe. Series one drew widespread acclaim for its lush cinematography and spectacular battles and with an even-more-epic scale promised, we may finally have a serious challenger to the *Game Of Thrones* crown.

Alexander Dreymon is Uhtred of Bebbanburg



A nasty rabbit



WATERSHIP DOWN

CHANNEL: BBC One

STARRING: John Boyega, James McAvoy

WHEN IT'S ON: TBC

The most traumatising 'children's movie' ever gets a four-part animated remake by the BBC, with an all-star voice cast that, Boyega and McAvoy aside, also boasts Olivia Colman, Nicholas Hoult and Sir Ben Kingsley. The BBC says it's toning down the violence of the 1979 original, although it's made no such promises about the crushing melancholy.

2017 NEW ARTISTS

10 doses of fresh blood
to make you feel alive



Cabbage (l-r):
Stephen, Eoghan,
Asa, Joe and Lee

CABBAGE

The sound of Manchester's old icons being torn down

"We don't like anything dull," says Cabbage guitarist/vocalist Joe Martin. From their "anti-band-name" band name to their lyrics about w**king into a quiche in the name of class warfare, no one could accuse Cabbage of being dull. Martin likens his band to a Frankie Boyle gig – the four EPs they've released thus far might strain the boundaries of taste, but they have a lot to say about the world. "We've come out of the traps with songs about necrophilia, war and capitalism," he explains. "When David Cameron called Jeremy Corbyn a terrorist sympathiser, we took a stab at that, too. But we don't want to be pigeonholed as a political band. We're keen to explore different realms." It's that desire to do things differently that makes Cabbage a band you can't ignore. And however their debut album – due next year – turns out, you can bet it won't be boring.

Barry Nicolson

FROM Manchester **ESSENTIAL TRACK** 'Tell Me Lies About Manchester' **GOAL FOR 2017** "Release an album, improve our headline shows and stay alive. These are tough times."

FOR FANS OF



FAT WHITE FAMILY



HAPPY MONDAYS



The Big Moon (l-r):
Fern, Jules, Celia
and Soph

THE BIG MOON

Full-on fun and frenzied indie-rock heaven

It's impossible not to have fun when The Big Moon are around. Their records jump out of your speakers like partners asking you to dance, as the intoxicating riffs and dry, wry lyrics wrap you up in their world of weird. There's the luckless matchmaker getting Dutch courage from Tropical Rubicon on 'Cupid' and sarcastic, soft invites to "*blow smoke up my arse*" on 'Bonfire' – and that's just for starters.

On stage, they're an excitable gang who seem like they can't believe their luck, but they don't let that get in the way of goofing off. At their biggest headline show to date, at London's Scala in November, singer and guitarist Juliette Jackson opened their set by standing looking wide-eyed at the audience and yelling: "It feels like Christmas!" Their

debut album 'Love In The 4th Dimension' arrives on April 17 and bassist Celia Archer tells *NME*, "It's going to be iconic." **Rhian Daly**

FROM London
ESSENTIAL TRACK 'Cupid'
GOAL FOR 2017 "To fully enjoy all the feelings that come with releasing our debut album and to savour every incredible moment."

FOR FANS OF



THE LIBERTINES



ELASTICA



HMLTD:
'Wish to remain nameless'

HMLTD

The hopes of the music industry rest on their shoulders

The name? Confusing (it's an acronym for Happy Meal Ltd, which preceded it). The music? Borderline insane (flits from oik punk to womp-heavy, Death Grips-sampling *nightmares*). The look? Like they're en route from Warhol's Factory to a *Blackadder* casting. HMLTD are as much about hype as music – which explains why, since bursting onto the scene in mid-2016, they haven't given a single face-to-face interview.

BONZAI

Badass kaleidoscopic electronica

Things have moved fast for Bonzai. She moved to London at 17 and within a year was doing backing vocals for Nao. She's since toured numerous times with Mura Masa and this autumn she supported Aussie electro experimentalist Flume on his European tour, and released 'Lunacy', her third electronica EP.

Bonzai's heroes are iconic mavericks. There's Bjork, who "doesn't care about structure, she just does what she wants", Rihanna, because "who she puts across is who she actually is" and Death Grips, who "just don't give a f**k". Her friend Mica Warren animates her videos because, she explains, "Too much lies on looks, especially with female artists". So when it comes to her "weird, cool" forthcoming album, she says, "I don't think I'll be putting my face on it." With production this deft, there's no need.

Larry Bartleet

FROM London via Dublin
ESSENTIAL TRACK 'I Did'
GOAL FOR 2017 "To make a really interesting album."



FOR FANS OF



M.I.A.



FKA TWIGS

The best *NME* gets, via email, is this (admittedly fantastic) quote: "The music scene is like the giant serpent Ouroboros, perpetually eating its own tail. In this cycle the head represents flamboyancy, and the tail false modesty. We are the head, and naturally the status quo is stirred by the eating of the tail."

Matt Wilkinson

FROM England, Greece, France
ESSENTIAL TRACK
Double A-side debut single 'Is This What You Wanted?'/ 'Stained' is out now.

GOAL FOR 2017

"We want to convert people."

FOR FANS OF David Bowie, Skrillex

HARE SQUEAD

Soulful skatepark hip-hop

Two years ago, school friends Lilo Blues and Tony Konstone found themselves in the same Dublin skatepark as Jessy Rose. "There aren't many black skaters in Dublin – but then I bumped into them when I was 16 and they were exactly the same as me. We made a song that night."

Lilo and Tony had been making tunes in the vein of Odd Future, but Jessy Rose saw they needed some Frank Ocean-esque soul in the mix and was happy to bring it. The three now share a house

Hare Squead (l-r):
Tony, Jessy and Lilo

in Dublin and are constantly making music there. Their influences skip across genres: think Michael Jackson, Green Day, Christina Aguilera and Tupac, "but we infuse it with now. It's a mixture", says Lilo. They are impressively busy: from touring with Dua Lipa to releasing their 'Supernormal' EP this month. Squead goals for sure. **Leonie Cooper**

FOR FANS OF



THE XX



THE 1975

FROM Dublin
ESSENTIAL TRACK 'Herside Story'

GOAL FOR 2017 "We want to be bigger than The Beatles."



THE JAPANESE HOUSE

A blend of Tame Impala's chilled moments and Jamie xx's magical rhythms

When Amber Bain went to Iceland two years ago, she accidentally overdosed on cough medicine and endured "a four-hour trip to hell", she says. "I thought I'd get an early night, but half an hour later the wall started moving."

The experience is echoed in the London-based 21-year-old's woozy music and psychedelic artwork. When not in the studio, Bain's out on the road and recently supported pop megastars The 1975. Since then the friendship

has blossomed, with the pals collaborating on all three of The Japanese House's EPs to date – drummer George Daniel co-produced the latest, 'Swim Against The Tide'. In the early days, she says, "Nobody knew if I was a boy or a girl. That meant people just listened to the music instead of being focused on who I was." With her debut album close to being ready, we're a lot closer to finding out who The Japanese House really is. **Alex Flood**

FROM London
ESSENTIAL TRACK 'Face Like Thunder'

GOAL FOR 2017 "To finish my album and to be happy."

PWR BTM

Gender-fluid punk with indelible pop nous

When PWR BTM's gig was picketed by anti-gay protestors, they retaliated with humour. "I brought out three dresses I was choosing between for the show," says Liv Bruce, half of the "genre-queer" NY punks. "I asked their opinions, like, 'I know God hates me for wearing a dress, but which do you think God hates the least?'"

Coming on like Weezer managed by John Waters and inspired by riot grrrl – Liv was once in a Hole covers band – the pair formed PWR BTM in 2013 and penned a manifesto emphasising inclusiveness, especially at their gigs. As Trump's America threatens LGBTQ rights, PWR BTM are taking on the alt-right one sequin at a time. **Gary Ryan**

FROM New York
ESSENTIAL TRACK

'I Wanna Boi'

GOAL FOR 2017 "We want people to come to our shows and forget that people are trying to divide us."

FOR FANS OF



THE WHITE STRIPES



NIRVANA



NEW ARTISTS 2017



Artificial Pleasure (l-r):
Dom, Phil, Lee

ARTIFICIAL PLEASURE

Irresistible funk-punk with thrusting sleazy grooves

Sometimes a band comes along with a song so perfect, you wonder how it hadn't been written before. Artificial Pleasure's 'I'll Make It Worth Your While' – a David Bowie's 'Fame'-indebted jewel – is one such song. It dates back to before Artificial Pleasure were even a thing, when members Phil McDonnell (vocals/guitar), Dom Brennan

(synths) and Lee Jordan (drums) were part of the Bowie-worshipping four-piece Night Engine. "A founding member of the band left and at that point Night Engine crumbled," explains McDonnell. "You can't just do the same thing over and over, but it would be a shame to get rid of a song we loved." The trio made their live debut as Artificial Pleasure at the end of November.

Rhian Daly

FROM London
ESSENTIAL TRACK 'I'll Make It Worth Your While'
GOAL FOR 2017 "To play to as many people as possible."



PWR BTM (l-r):
Liv and Ben

PHOTOS: REX FEATURES, PAUL HU, DOMINIC SHELDON, RALEXANDRA WAEST, DANNY NORTH, EBRU YILDIZ, JEANIQ AMIHIA

AJ TRACEY

Grime MC gunning for the US

Grime is a British sound, with elements inherited from pirate radio, garage and rave culture. But that's not stopping the scene's new wave setting their sights across the pond. AJ Tracey, 22, is ready to "bridge the Transatlantic gap a little bit". He played his first US shows earlier this year ("That was sick. } I expected people to have no

idea what I was saying, but New York is really in tune with London") and pricked the ears of Americans after hopping on a Clams Casino remix with A\$AP Rocky and Lil B ('Be Somebody'). His newly released 'Lil Tracey' EP bends grime's boundaries, veering through trill, southern rap and techno. "Every EP I do is another is another level up," he says.

Luke Morgan Britton

FROM West London
ESSENTIAL TRACK 'Buster Cannon'
GOAL FOR 2017 "To better my craft."



FOR FANS OF



CHANCE
THE RAPPER



OUTKAST

DECLAN MCKENNA

Riffs, synths, wickedly smart lyrics

At 17, Declan McKenna wants to be the voice of every teenager who's about to get shafted by Brexit. "The younger generation are always being portrayed as pretentious – I'm trying to give an impression that is genuinely representative of us." This has been a landmark year for the Hertfordshire upstart – supporting Blossoms on tour, performing solo on US chat show *Conan* and returning to the Glastonbury Festival, where he won the Emerging Talent Competition in 2015.

Attention now turns to his debut album, which has been



produced by James Ford (Arctic Monkeys, Foals). It's shaping up to be a delightful blend of indie and synthpop, with lyrics covering topics including how transgender people are treated ('Paracetamol'), and police brutality ('Isombard').

Thomas Smith

FOR FANS OF



BOB DYLAN



BLOSSOMS

FROM Hertford
ESSENTIAL TRACK 'Isombard'
GOAL FOR 2017 "Enjoy it."



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2017 LIVE

9 extravaganzas to get tickets for now

BLINK-182

Californian pop-punks take on arenas

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** The SSE Hydro, Glasgow **Wed 12** AECC Arena, Aberdeen **Fri 14** Arena, Manchester **Sat 15** Echo Arena, Liverpool **Mon 17** BIC, Bournemouth **Wed 19** **Thu 20** The O2, London

TELL ME MORE: The pop-punkers return to the UK following their headline sets at Reading & Leeds this summer, with new album 'California' in tow. Drummer Travis Barker has teased a record of songs that didn't make that album to be released around Christmas, so perhaps they'll have even more new songs to play for us come July.

TICKETS: £32.45-£52.55

LOVEBOX

The dance-focused event has a big first announcement

JULY 2017

Fri 14-Sat 15 Victoria Park, London

TELL ME MORE: The enigmatic Frank Ocean will head over to the UK for his first live show since 2014, following his return on record earlier this year. His long-awaited second album came in the form of 'Blonde', which was preceded by visual record 'Endless'. Further artists are still to be announced, but Ocean will top the bill on the Friday of the festival. This year's fest included headliners Major Lazer and LCD Soundsystem.

TICKETS: £55.25-£105.50



READING & LEEDS 2017

Get ready to rock in August

AUGUST 2017

Thu 24-Sun 27 Bramham Park, Leeds **Thu 24-Sun 27** Richfield Avenue, Reading

TELL ME MORE: After five stellar headliners this year, the twin festivals look set to keep things massive in 2017. Muse will return to headline the events and will be joined by the likes of Bastille, Major Lazer, At The Drive-In, Danny Brown and more.

TICKETS: £213



LAURA MARLING

The London singer returns

MARCH 2017

Wed 8 O2 Academy, Leeds **Thu 9** Colston Hall, Bristol **Fri 10** O2 ABC, Glasgow **Sun 12** Albert Hall, Manchester **Mon 13** O2 Academy, Oxford **Tue 14** O2 Institute, Birmingham **Thu 16** Dome, Brighton **Fri 17** Roundhouse, London **Sat 18** City Hall, Salisbury **Tue 21** Roundhouse, London

TELL ME MORE: The lyrical songwriter tours forthcoming sixth album 'Semper Femina'.

TICKETS: £22.55-£32.05

BLOSSOMS

Riffs and hooks aplenty

MARCH 2017

Thu 16 University Ballroom, Keele **Fri 17** Olympia, Liverpool **Sat 18** Dome, Brighton **Mon 20** Engine Shed, Lincoln **Tue 21** Lemon Grove, Exeter **Thu 23** Roundhouse, London **Fri 24** O2 Academy, Bristol **Sat 25** Tramshed, Cardiff **Mon 27** Nick Rayns LCR UEA, Norwich **Wed 29** O2 Academy, Birmingham **Thu 30** O2 Academy, Leeds **Fri 31** O2 Academy, Newcastle

APRIL 2017

Sat 1 O2 Academy, Glasgow

TELL ME MORE: Expect the Stockport boys' tracks 'Charlemagne' and 'Blown Rose' to sound massive in these venues.

TICKETS: £19.25-£22.65



WARPAINT

LA four-piece with woozy indie to die for

MARCH 2017

Wed 22 O2 Institute, Birmingham **Thu 23** Beckett Student Union, Leeds **Tue 28** O2 Academy, Oxford **Wed 29** Dome, Brighton

TELL ME MORE: Warpaint sounded like they were having the most fun ever on their recently released third album 'Heads Up'. That energy should transfer to their live shows.

TICKETS: £20.35-£24.20





FIELD DAY

Big names and new artists start summer in Hackney

JUNE 2017

Sat 3 Victoria Park, London

TELL ME MORE: Aphex Twin, AKA Richard D James, has confirmed a rare live appearance – and his first UK show in five years – by becoming the first artist announced for the east London festival. The IDM producer will headline, with more acts to be announced soon.

TICKETS: £59.95



KAISER CHIEFS

Veteran indie-poppers who know a catchy chorus

FEBRUARY 2017

Wed 22 Venue Cymru Arena,

Llandudno **Fri 24** BIC,

Bournemouth **Sat 25**

Barclaycard Arena,

Birmingham **Mon 27**

Pavilions, Plymouth

Tue 28 Centre, Brighton

MARCH 2017

Wed 1 The O2, London **Fri 3**

Arena, Manchester **Sat 4** First

Direct Arena, Leeds

TELL ME MORE: New album 'Stay Together' embraces synth-pop with a smattering of new material that should combine well with the rowdy "woahhh"s of old classics.

TICKETS: £21.45-£44



LIVE 2017

MINI INTERVIEW



Lin-Manuel

Miranda

Creator and writer of *Hamilton*

Why is *Hamilton* so huge?

"It's a love letter to hip-hop and musical theatre. Fans of both genres can find an entry point. My original idea for 'Hamilton' was a concept album – a rap 'Jesus Christ Superstar'. [Washington's spy] Hercules Mulligan is the greatest pseudonym Busta Rhymes never had."

When the Broadway cast went viral reading out a speech to Vice President-elect Mike Pence in the audience, Questlove compared it to NWA. High praise?

"What we did was milder. We'd come out of an election crisis that revealed a divided country and said, 'Please represent all of us.'"

The musical's spawned its own mixtape...

"We asked artists like Queen Latifah and John Legend what the show inspired them to make. I cried when I heard Busta Rhymes' voice on 'My Shot'. Best thing is I can tell my grandkids I'm on a track with Nas."

HAMILTON

The hip-hop musical conquering the world

OPENING NOVEMBER 2017

TELL ME MORE: Hamilton has been a smash in the US – it's one of the most successful Broadway shows ever – telling the story of one of the country's founding fathers, Alexander Hamilton, with a hip-hop twist and entirely non-white cast. It's already won 11 Tony awards and the Pulitzer Prize for drama and looks set to continue its phenomenal success as it opens here too.

TICKETS: On sale 30 Jan, hamiltonthemusical.co.uk



(L-r): Daveed Diggs, Okieriete Onaodowan, Anthony Ramos, Lin-Manuel Miranda

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SNAP FASHION

Pattern party

Olly Alexander of Years & Years knows how to rock a decent pattern. Here's what the Snap Fashion app found when we used it to get his fresh look



BOOHOO MAN
at Snap Fashion £20



TOPMAN
at Snap Fashion £10



RIVER ISLAND
at Snap Fashion £40



BURTON
at Snap Fashion £28



MANGO MAN
at Snap Fashion £9.99



BOOHOO MAN
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OFFICE
at Snap Fashion £25



RIVER ISLAND
at Snap Fashion £25



**PRETTY GREEN AT
HOUSE OF FRASER**
at Snap Fashion £26.25



**A BATHING APE
AT SELFRIDGES**
at Snap Fashion £310



PHOTO: DEAN CHALKLEY

SNAP  FASHION

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2017 NYE

6 ways to say "laters" to 2016

JON HOPKINS

Melodic electronica from the acclaimed producer
Art School, Glasgow

TELL ME MORE: Mercury-nominated Hopkins joins Nathan Fake, Bossy Love and more. Get lost in a world of sublime electronica with them.
TICKETS: £28.60

THE STROKES DISCO

A celebration of the NYC stars' biggest bangers
Night & Day Cafe, Manchester

TELL ME MORE: Julian and pals might not be playing, but that doesn't mean you can't celebrate the beginning of New Year with them. Get down to Night & Day where they'll be playing strictly Strokes songs, New York indie hits and other relevant bangers.
TICKETS: £5.50

CLUB NME NYE BALL

New music goodness
KOKO, London

TELL ME MORE: Indie-pop sweetheart Oscar, grungy gang Black Honey and Brighton shoegazers Our Girl will ring in the New Year at Club NME's annual ball.
TICKETS: £25.31



WHP16 NYE

The long-running gig series hosts an all-night rave
The Warehouse Project, Manchester

TELL ME MORE: There's no better place for dance-heads this New Year. With a mammoth line-up, they've got Blonde, Monki, Kidnap Kid and The Droom Team (featuring DJ Spoon) heading down for what's guaranteed to be a killer night.
TICKETS: £42.50

THE CHARLATANS

'90s baggy veterans with great hair and great tunes
City Centre, Edinburgh

TELL ME MORE: Indie stalwarts The Charlatans will take part in Edinburgh's infamous Hogmanay celebrations this year. With Edinburgh Castle acting as the gig's backdrop and tons of fireworks promised, the likes of 'One To Another' and 'North Country Boy' should sound even bigger and better.
TICKETS: £25

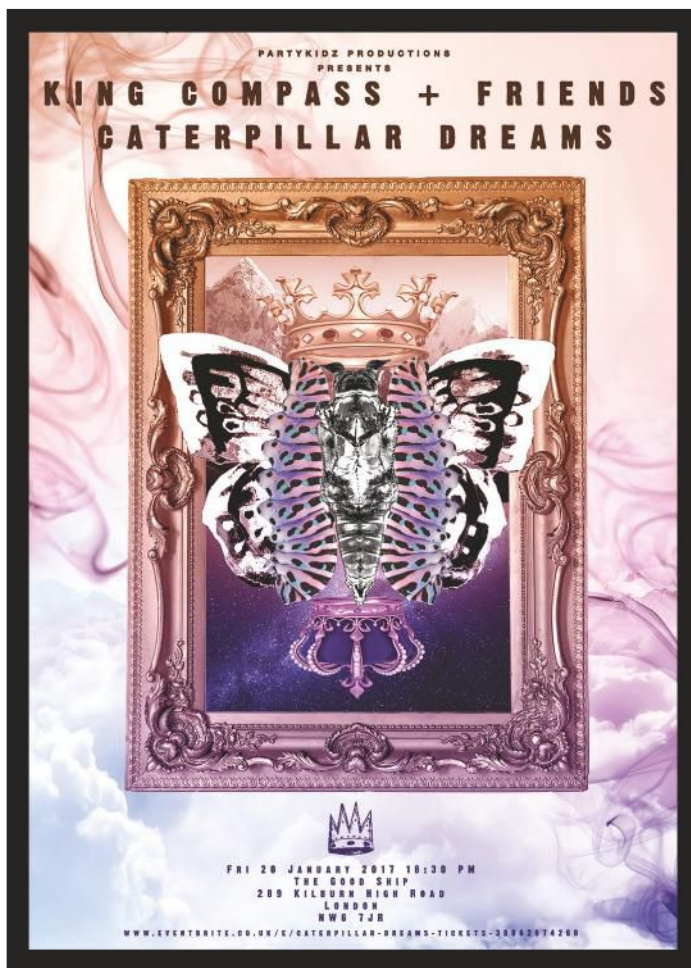


A CELEBRATION OF BOWIE

Relive the icon's best moments
Chapter Arts Centre, Cardiff

TELL ME MORE: It's been nearly a year and we're still not over Bowie leaving us. If you've got the same problem, this celebration of the great man's life and career should bring some comfort, joy and the opportunity to remember better days.
TICKETS: £20





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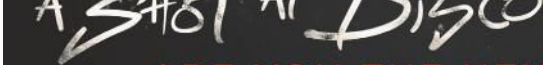
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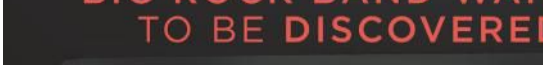




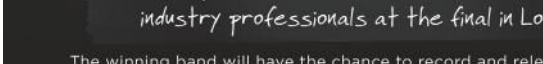


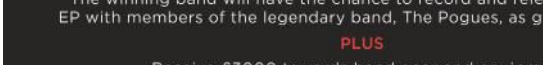


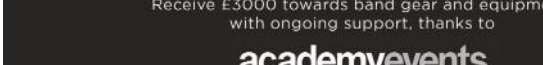




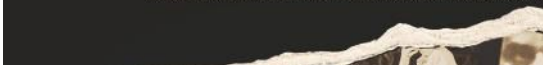






















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25 **MANCHESTER** ACADEMY
27 **LEEDS** CHURCH
28 **LEICESTER** O2 ACADEMY
29 **BRISTOL** O2 ACADEMY
31 **BIRMINGHAM** O2 INSTITUTE

APRIL 2017
01 **BOURNEMOUTH** O2 ACADEMY
02 **OXFORD** O2 ACADEMY
03 **CAMBRIDGE** JUNCTION
05 **LONDON** O2 SHEPHERDS BUSH EMPIRE
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SOUNDTRACK OF MY LIFE

Taylor Hawkins

Foo Fighters drummer and actual rock god

THE SONG THAT MADE ME WANT TO DRUM

QUEEN

Keep Yourself Alive

"There's a live version from 1979, which the band apparently hated, but I love it. It's one of my favourite Queen records and some of Roger Taylor's finest drumming. The Police's 'Zenyatta Mondatta' is another record that made me go, 'Wow, I want to play drums like that.' My dream was to sing and look like Roger Taylor and play drums like Stewart Copeland."

THE SONG I DO AT KARAOKE

DAVID BOWIE

Anything

"I like to do David Bowie. He has a good range for me and I do a good David Bowie impersonation. I did 'Let's Dance' not too long ago."

THE SONG THAT REMINDS ME OF JOINING FOO FIGHTERS

FOO FIGHTERS *Monkey Wrench*

"When I first joined the Foo Fighters I was coming from a different angle as a drummer. I remember 'Monkey Wrench' and thinking, 'Oh my God, this song's going to kill me. It's really hard!' But Dave [Grohl], as he always has been, was patient. He wanted me in the band."



THE KINGSMEN

THE FIRST SONG I REMEMBER HEARING

THE KINGSMEN

Louie Louie

"I remember this one song as a kid and it just scared the s**t out of me. 'Louie Louie' or something... I don't know, there's just something in their voices that sounded evil to me."

THE FIRST SONG I FELL IN LOVE WITH

OLIVIA-NEWTON JOHN

Have You Ever Been Mellow

"I love her so much, oh my God. My daughter loves her too – we took her to see Olivia about three or four months ago. She's just got this angel voice and she was just so hot when we were kids. She was the most perfect woman when I was, like, seven."

GO TO NME.COM FOR
MORE SOUNDTRACKS

THE FIRST ALBUM I EVER BOUGHT

QUEEN

The Game

"The first album I purchased with my own money? I think it was Queen. It was either 'The Game' or the *Star Wars* soundtrack – one or the other."

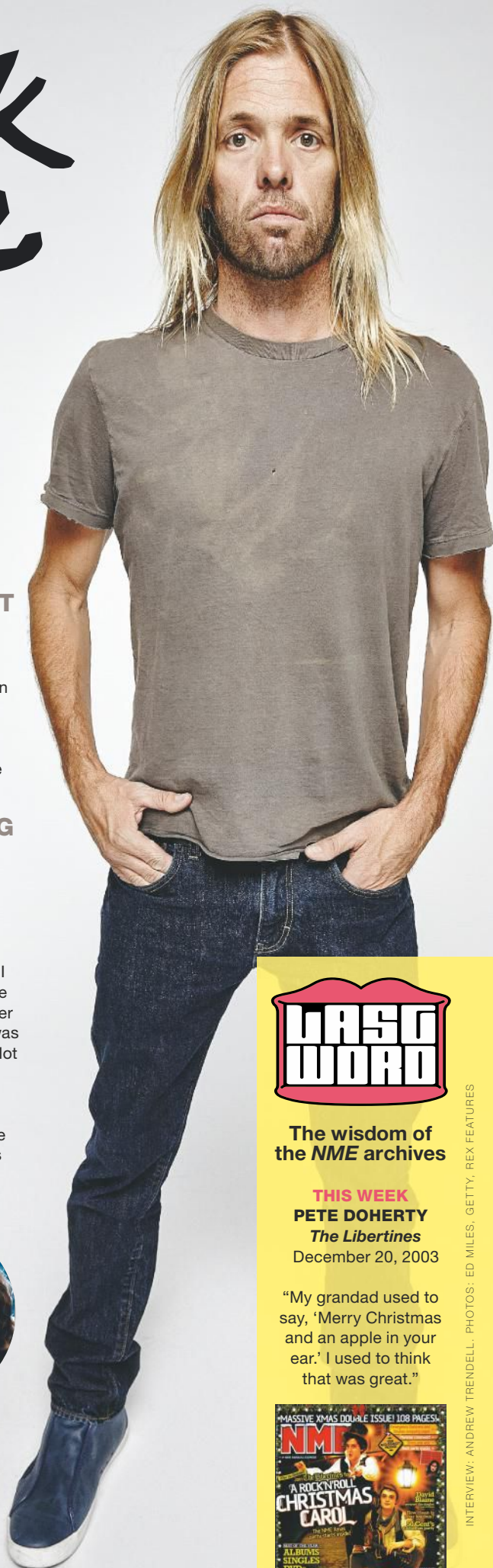
THE FIRST GIG I WENT TO

QUEEN AND BILLY SQUIER

"It was at Irvine Meadows, which they just tore down. I was really sad about it, but I got to go play there one more time with my cover band Chevy Metal. It was September 1982, the Hot Space tour for Queen and the Emotions In Motion tour for Billy Squier. It's the best title for a record ever. It has to be whispered: 'Emotions, In Motion.'"



QUEEN



The wisdom of
the NME archives

THIS WEEK

PETE DOHERTY

The Libertines

December 20, 2003

"My grandad used to say, 'Merry Christmas and an apple in your ear.' I used to think that was great."

