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NME

MUSIC
FILM
STYLE

**RUSSELL
BRAND**

**“WE MIGHT
BE WITNESSING
THE END OF
DEMOCRACY”**

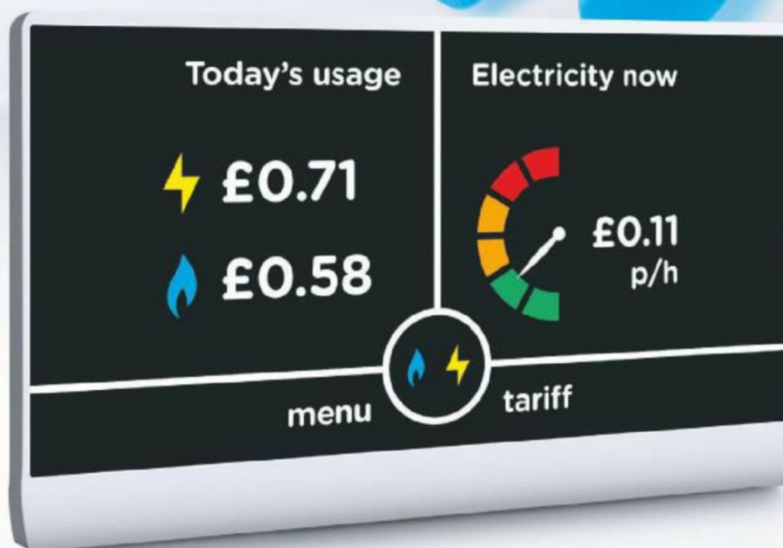
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NME

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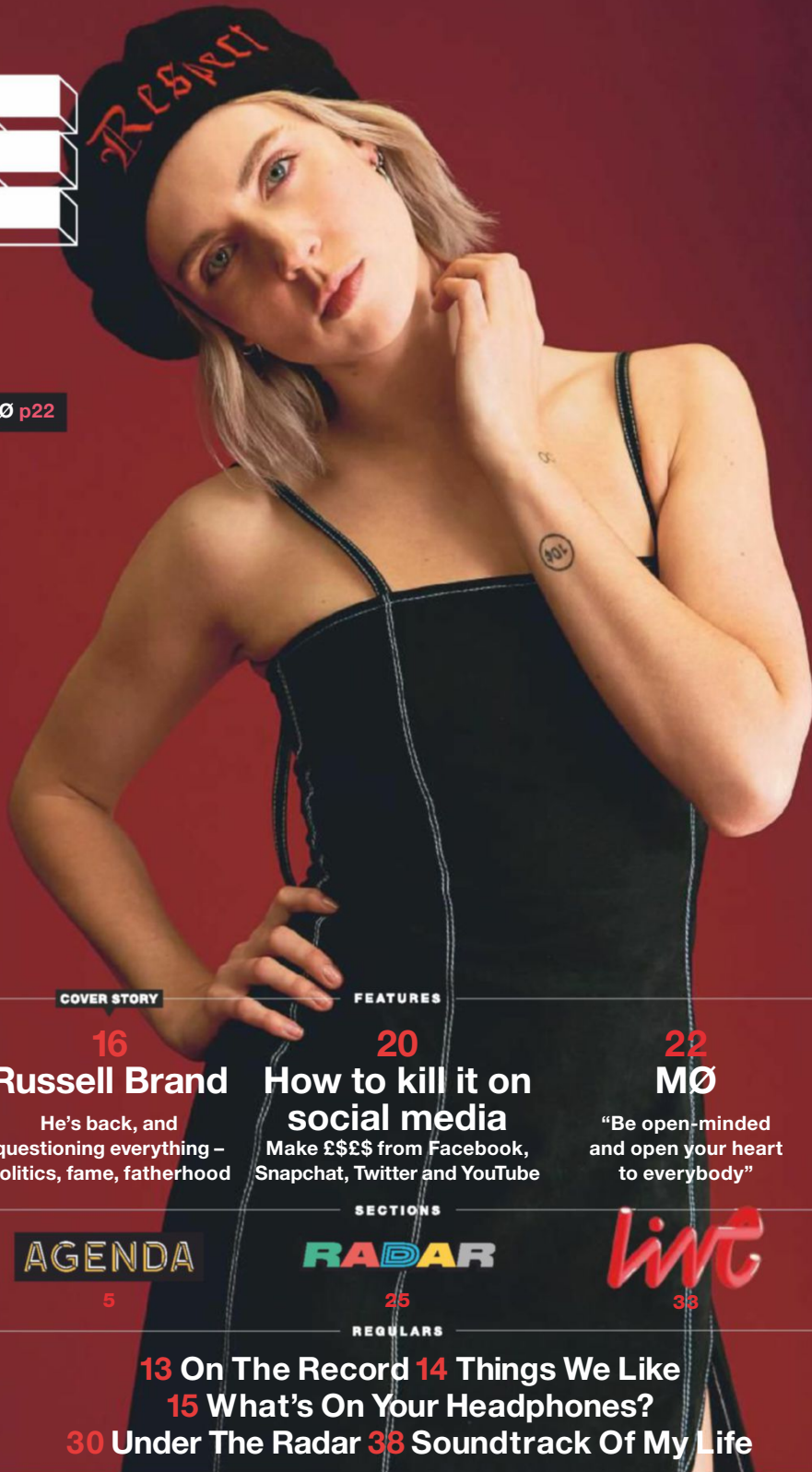


I FIRST HEARD THE name Le Pen via the Manic Street Preachers tune 'Archives Of Pain'. The song starts with a dark spoken word sample from the mother of one of Yorkshire Ripper Peter Sutcliffe's victims. It then goes on to list the names of a bunch of famous serial killers and far right lunatics. One of those listed is Jean-Marie Le Pen, a convicted racist and holocaust denier (and then-leader of the Front National), alongside Myra Hindley, Ian Brady, Jeffrey Dahmer, Idi Amin and Slobodan Milosevic. What a crew.

Jean-Marie Le Pen is the father of Marine Le Pen, the defeated (hooray!) French presidential candidate. Now, having a s***tbag for a dad doesn't in any way mean that you yourself are also a s***tbag, but in the case of Marine Le Pen, that is the case. I'm delighted that the people of France have resoundingly rejected her and all she stands for, but also massively jealous that in the UK we don't seem to be able to give the finger to hatred as efficiently as our sexy and sophisticated pals across the channel. Vive la France. You taught us how to cook, now remind us how to love.

MIKE WILLIAMS
Editor-in-Chief
@itsmikelike

MØ p22



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He's back, and questioning everything – politics, fame, fatherhood

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"Be open-minded and open your heart to everybody"

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AGENDA

WHAT EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT THIS WEEK

Five things to bear in mind while listening to the new Harry Styles album

The One Directioner's long-awaited debut is out today. It's called 'Harry Styles'

1 As well as singing on all 10 tracks – obviously – Harry plays two strange instruments on the album. The omnichord – a 1980s handheld electronic synth – on opening track 'Meet Me In The Hallway', and something called a güiro (a notched wooden percussion thing) on 'Two Ghosts'. A man of many talents.

2 'Harry Styles' was made in the luxury Geejam Studio in Jamaica and The Village Studios in Los Angeles, where everyone from The Doors to Bob Dylan have recorded.

3 If you like a bit of mystery, then try and work out who the girl on the hard-rocking 'Only Angel' is. "*Couldn't take you home to mother in a skirt that short / But I think that's what I like about it*," sings Harry, before casually adding "*she's a devil between the sheets*". Is it the same girl on the song 'Kiwi' who "*worked her way through a cheap pack of cigarettes*," we wonder?

4 Is Harry also trying to show off his nice new house via the medium of song titles? 'Meet Me In The Hallway' and 'From The Dining Table' suggest that yeah, maybe.

5 Brit-poppers Shed Seven have had a minor issue with the artwork, suggesting Harry copied the cover photo of their 1994 single 'Ocean Pie'. "When I first saw it I genuinely thought 'Are you ripping us off? It's very close to the mark,'" singer Rick Witter told *The Daily Mirror*. He won't be taking Harry to court though, adding: "It's a nice compliment. They really do say imitation is the biggest form of flattery. I saw him on *Graham Norton* trying to be all indie. Good luck to the lad."

Read the *NME* review of 'Harry Styles' on NME.com



EMMA WATSON

Won the first ever 'gender-neutral' acting award at the MTV Movie & TV Awards. "This is very meaningful."



STORMZY

"Best day ever," tweeted the grime MC, posting a pic of him and Adele hugging backstage. Aww.



BRAD PITT

He's been working through his post-divorce pain by listening to Frank Ocean. We're here for you, Brad.



PEPE THE FROG

The meme-turned-hate-symbol has been killed in a comic strip by its creator.



Don't be a d**k at a festival this summer

Sound advice from AIF's Renae Brown



ON MONDAY May 8, over 25 festivals (including Bestival, Secret Garden Party and End of the Road) blacked out their websites for 24 hours to help raise awareness of sexual assaults at festivals. They all displayed a GIF that read 'Zero tolerance to sexual assault. Hands off unless consent. Don't be a bystander.' Renae Brown from the Association of Independent Festivals explains the campaign.

"Our members are supporting this because of a growing concern about sexual violence. More than

half a million adults are sexually assaulted in England and Wales each year. There's no evidence or statistics to suggest that these crimes occur any more or less at music festivals; in fact, from our survey, 93 per cent of respondents didn't experience any kind of crime [such as theft, ticket fraud or assault] at all when attending a festival.

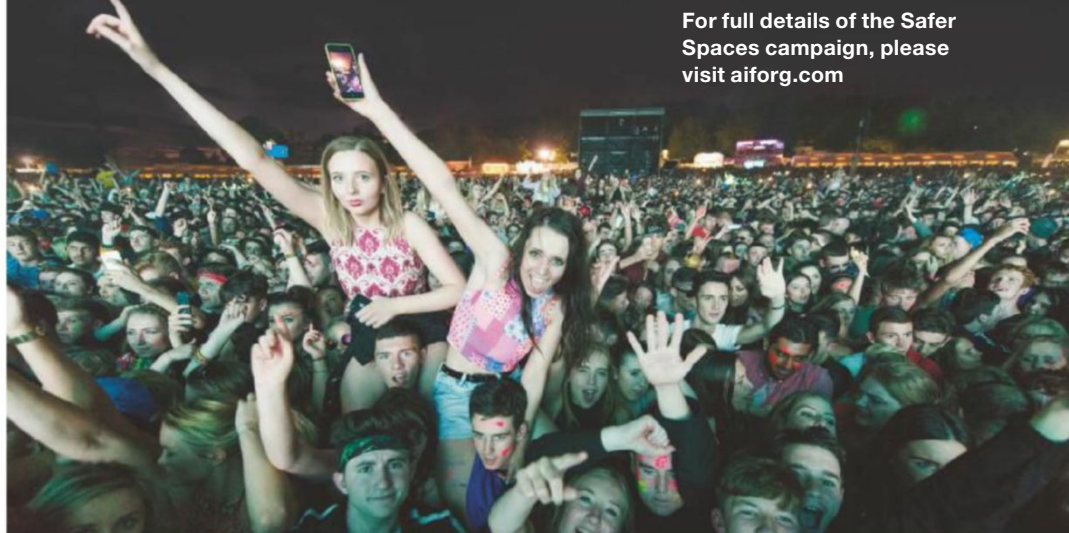
"However, against this background, and working with experts from Rape Crisis England and Wales, Girls Against, Safer Gigs For Women and the White Ribbon Project, event organisers want to reiterate their zero-tolerance policy towards sexual assault.

The campaign also aims to highlight the good work that many festivals are already doing to increase awareness.

"I certainly feel a lot safer wandering around a festival compared to using public transport late at night. However, I also want to keep it that way. Festivalgoers should be looking out for each other. If you see someone being a d**k, call them out. Don't be a bystander. Get security, report them. Ask someone if they're OK. If your mate is making someone feel uncomfortable, call them out on it. Don't egg them on. Keep your hands to yourselves. If someone says 'no', it means no.

"Festivals are the best things about summer; you can escape from reality, see your favourite bands and make new friends. Festival organisers have a duty of care for their audiences and will continue to make audience safety and welfare their top priority, but audiences should also have each other's backs in return."

For full details of the Safer Spaces campaign, please visit aiforg.com

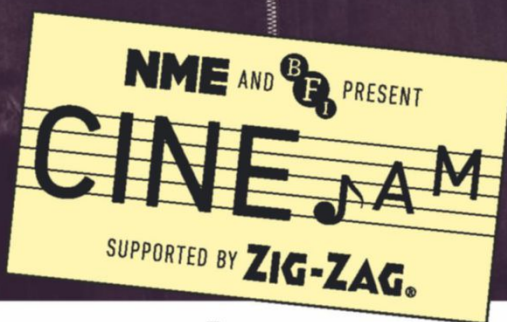


Win two VIP tickets to TRNSMT festival!

WHERE: Glasgow Green
WHEN: July 7-9
WHO'S PLAYING: Radiohead, Kasabian, Biffy Clyro, London Grammar, Stormzy, The 1975, Rag'n'Bone Man, Cabbage and many more
HOW DO I WIN?
 Go to NME.com/win. Good luck!



London Grammar play on Friday night



Bastille to curate new *NME* film festival

The band's singer Dan Smith is handpicking classic films and new bands for Cinejam, a collaboration with BFI, Zig-Zag and the Rooftop Film Club

BASTILLE'S DAN SMITH IS combining his love for music and film by curating *NME*'s new big screen event Cinejam – in collaboration with BFI, Zig-Zag and the Rooftop Film Club.

The band's love for cinema goes way back. Their 2012 'Other People's Heartache' mixtape was a fictional soundtrack for a dreamt-up film. And the artwork for latest album 'Wild World' is designed like an old-school movie poster. They're film geeks who also happen to write massive pop songs.

Cinejam sees the band's motion picture obsession go one step further. This summer,

a carefully curated selection of films – from undisputed classics to modern-day triumphs, all handpicked by the band – will be screened on the roof of Peckham's Bussey Building.

South London's music and arts space is also being taken over by a line-up of must-see bands, including fast-rising Scandipop star Dagny and future superstars Sundara Karma. Nowhere else will you be able to watch Ryan Gosling's signature dreamy stares in *Drive* and catch some of the fastest-rising new bands all in the same space.

Need to know

WHERE IS IT?

Rooftop Film Club, Bussey Building, Peckham

WHEN IS IT?

July 5-August 30, 2017

HOW DO I GET TICKETS?

rooftopfilmclub.com/london/cinejam

HOW MUCH ARE TICKETS?

£15 general admission;
£50 for a two-person Love Seat (£25pp)



What's showing and who's playing?

WEDNESDAY JULY 5

Film: *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*

The artist: Jagaara

WEDNESDAY JULY 12

The film: *The Big Lebowski*

The artist: Sundara Karma

SUNDAY JULY 23

The film: *Whiplash*

The artist: The Indien

WEDNESDAY JULY 26

The film: *High Fidelity*

The artist: Willow

SUNDAY JULY 30

The film: *Trainspotting*

The artist: Dagny

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 2

The film: *This Is Spinal Tap*

The artist: Little Cub

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 9

The film: *Drive*

The artist: Georgie

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 16

The film: *Pulp Fiction*

The artist: Artificial Pleasure

SUNDAY AUGUST 27

The film: *Goodfellas*

The artist: Lao Ra

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 30

The film: *True Romance*

The artist: Tom Grennan



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TOPMAN

How to run for parliament (as a teenager)

18-year-old Eli Aldridge has been selected as a Labour candidate for the general election on June 8 – a day after his A-level exams start. The aspiring MP for Westmorland & Lonsdale explains how to get on the road to Westminster



When did you first get involved in politics?

"In the aftermath of the 2015 election, my disappointment about the result spurred me on to think about how I could make a difference. The Labour Party seemed the obvious choice for me."

Why's that?

"Labour were trying to get young people involved and engaged in politics. They took us seriously, when some other parties would just dismiss you as children. I started doing the standard door-knocking, canvassing and leafleting. Then I took on more of an active role. I'm now the youth officer and sit on several committees within the constituency, so when May called the election I put my application in."

What do your mates make of it?

"They take the p*ss a bit – which is good! They've been overwhelmingly supportive. I've had a lot of people ask me questions. It's important to help people form their own opinions – even if it isn't to vote for me."

How can young people get more involved in this election?

"Get angry and have a moan. Join a political party. One voice on its own isn't as effective as 2.4 million, which is the number of 18-24-year-olds who aren't on the electoral register. That's the difference between a Labour and a Conservative government. So find out who you want to support in this election and go and give them a hand. Let them know that young people are passionate about politics and have a right to be heard."



Eli suggests helping out your favourite party

Get your name on the ballot

SUSS OUT WHO YOU SUPPORT

"There are some good websites out there that show you which party you might be interested in," says Eli. This is a good place to start: politicalcompass.org

JOIN YOUR FAVE PARTY

And start volunteering with your local group, handing out leaflets and suchlike. "You'll meet loads of like-minded people," says Eli.

PUT YOURSELF FORWARD AS A CANDIDATE

When an election is called you can apply for selection. You'll be interviewed by your local party, so prepare to win them over.

LAUNCH YOUR CAMPAIGN

Do it right and that seat could be yours.

Last W33K IN NUMBERS



10

Years since comedian Chris Rock's last UK tour – he's back again in 2018.



4

Nirvana songs Courtney Love picked as her faves, including 'In Bloom'.



£30,000

Amount pledged by Nicki Minaj to help with fans' tuition fees. Queen.



1

Number of TV shows Tyler, The Creator is gonna present. *Nuts And Bolts* is out soon.

Sun, sea, sex & *Baywatch* screenings

Wanna see the new *Baywatch* film before all your pals? Read on...

RED SWIMSUITS. LITTLE orange float things. Improbably perfect bodies bouncing down the beach in slow motion. You probably immediately know the show. *Baywatch* was one of the most iconic TV series of the 90s, mixing sun, surf and sex in a way that captivated an entire generation. Mention it to anyone in their thirties and they'll probably go a bit quiet and wistful. Now *Baywatch* is back, with a new cast, a bigger sense of humour and even more artfully oiled chests.

In *Baywatch*, Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson takes on the role of Mitch Buchannon. He's the no-nonsense head of a

group of elite lifeguards, committed to keeping the beach safe in the best-looking way possible. His businesslike way of doing things is upended when a new recruit, Matt Brody (Zac Efron), is brought in to give the team a younger, more marketable face. He's big trouble in tiny budgie smugglers. The two butt heads, but when they get wind of a criminal drug trafficker (Priyanka Chopra) operating on their patch, they team up for the greater good.

With a loving eye on the original show and its tongue firmly in its cheek, *Baywatch* is set to be one of the most fun movies of the summer. It's out in UK cinemas on May 29, but you can see it first – and for free – at one of our special preview screenings on May 18. Cue the rush for tickets now. There's no time for slo-mo running.

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PHOTO: PARAMOUNT



HOW DO I GET MY TICKETS?

Baywatch dives into cinemas on May 29, but lucky NME readers have the chance to see it first – and for free – at special preview screenings across the country on May 18. Screenings will take place at Vue cinemas in Birmingham, Bristol Cribbs, Finchley Road, Hull, Islington, Leeds Light, Northampton, Norwich, Reading, Sheffield, Shepherd's Bush and Stratford at 6pm for 6.30pm; and at Showcase cinemas in Cardiff, Coventry, Derby CDL, Glasgow, Leicester CDL, Manchester, Southampton CDL and Teesside at 6.30pm for 7pm. For full details and to claim free preview tickets, visit showfilmfirst.com and enter the code 824957.

BAYWATCH

IN CINEMAS ON MAY 29

ON THE RECORD

BIG OPINIONS. NO FILTER.



THIS WEEK

Eurovision is now the last bastion of hope

AND SO THE BREXIT blues rage on. It's been almost a year since the EU referendum took place and totally ruined my Glastonbury – and the rest – and now, with the General Election on the horizon, Theresa May is doing her darndest to secure a weighty majority and push through what could be one of the worst decisions this country has ever made. No wonder Banksy's decided now is the time to get out the paintbrush in Dover and create a giant mural of a workman chipping away at one of the stars on the EU flag, summing up the ominous fear for the future that many of us are feeling right now.

Yet in the midst of all this uncertainty comes a great

European tradition that brings together countries from across the continent – and Australia – through the power of song, silly outfits and drinking games. Yes, Eurovision is upon us once again, an annual celebration of campness and questionable attempts at making pop music, but, most importantly, an event in which we can bond with our European brothers and sisters by judging their musical prowess.

The 62nd Eurovision Song Contest final takes place this Saturday in Kiev. Like many other European issues

ABBA swept the board in 1974 with 'Waterloo'



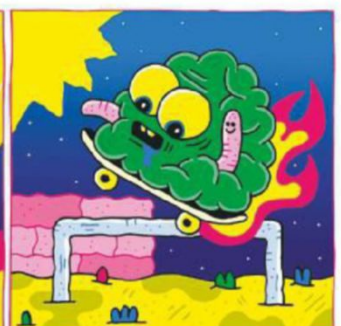
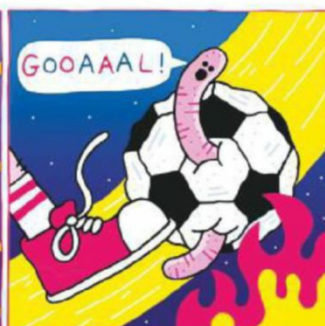
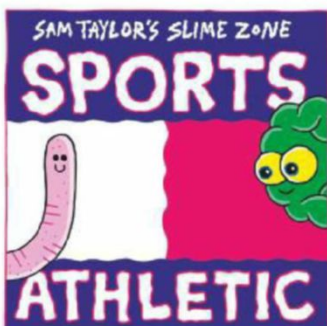
right now, it's had its problems – namely the fact that back in February the entire organisational staff resigned en masse. But you can't keep a good party down, and the big event is now upon us.

The glory days of Eurovision might be a fair few years behind us now – ABBA sweeping the board with an epic 'Waterloo' in 1974 while wearing bright blue bellbottoms, Bucks Fizz proving the power of Velcro with their skirt-ripping routine in 1981 and the many, many years of Terry

Wogan's deeply sarcastic, possibly p*ssed commentary – but now is surely the time to embrace the event once again.

And it's not just because of the potential for massive tunes – lest we forget 1965's Serge Gainsbourg penned 'Poupée de Cire, Poupée de Son' for the singer France Gall – but because of the event's casual way of pushing boundaries way before everyone else. It was back in 1998 that transgender artist Dana International won the event representing Israel, and in 2014 Conchita Wurst won in drag for Austria, representing the diverse, brilliant Europe that I wish to remain a part of. @leoniemaycooper

“Through song, we can bond with Europe”



THINGS WE LIKE

THIS WEEK'S OBJECTS OF DESIRE



Blondie ambition

This new poster of Debbie Harry by Obey mainman Shepard Fairey is awesome. **£25** theblondiestore.com



Coffee club

Check out the sweet retro design on this Smeg coffee machine. **£279.99** smeguk.com



Waxing lyrical

Rock 'n' roll jewellers The Great Frog's woodsmoke candle smells seriously good. **£30** thegreatfroglondon.com



DIY sounds

This portable boombox is made out of cardboard. For real. **£24.99** firebox.com



Food for thought

Adventure Time's official cookbook is a must for foodie fans of the bonkers show. **£19.99** amazon.co.uk



Stir it up

Made from Earth-friendly bamboo, this Bob Marley turntable is jammin'. **£199.99** houseofmarley.co.uk



Game on

Go to GAME for this exclusive steelbook version of brilliant new sci-fi thriller game Prey. **£44.99** game.co.uk



Shark tank

Bigmouth strikes again with this classic Jaws tee. **2 for £20** in-store and online hmv.com



Ivy league

Beyoncé's Ivy Park sportswear line does it again with this cool crop top. **£24** topshop.com



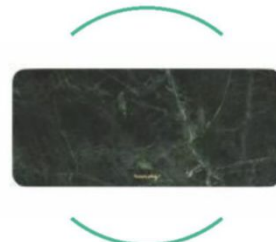
Pillow talk

His and hers pillowcases for fans of music's greatest power couple. **£14.95** nmemerch.com



Tequila sunrise

Patrón Silver's special Mexican heritage collector's tin is a classy treat. **£66.99** selfridges.com



Piece of work

Happy Plug's sweet Sound Piece speaker looks as good as it sounds. **£149** happyplugs.com

YOUR TOWN. YOUR MUSIC. YOUR STYLE

What's ON your Headphones?

THIS WEEK

Tamworth



"You won't find better scenery"

< ANDREW GRIFFITHS

31, creative art worker

Listening to:

PEACE

Money

"There's this great, upbeat vibe about it."

Wearing: Topman jacket, H&M hoodie, T-shirt and jeans, Asics trainers.

Best thing about Tamworth: "Summer strolls along the river."

HANNAH EMMOT >

24, visual merchandiser

Listening to:

BLOSSOMS

Honey Sweet

"It just makes me feel really good."

Wearing: Coat from a charity shop, Topshop jumper, Marks & Spencer trousers, Next shoes.

Best thing about

Tamworth: "The castle grounds are lovely."



< BETHANY HALL

18, legal secretary

Listening to:

FALL OUT BOY

Twin Skeletons

(Hotel In NYC)

"It's really catchy and the lyrics are personal to me."

Wearing: Primark coat, New Look scarf, trousers and shoes.

Best thing about

Tamworth: "The variety of shops is really good. There's something for absolutely everyone."

PHOTOS: BETHANY KANE

JOE GERVON >

27, bar manager

Listening to:

THE MACCABEES

No Kind Words

"It's a feelgood tune that makes you want to dance."

Wearing: Vintage jacket, T-shirt from charity shop, Levi's jeans.

Best thing about

Tamworth: "You won't find better scenery."



RUSSELL BRAND



BRAND VALUES

Russell Brand is back and he's questioning everything, from politics to fame to fatherhood. Kevin EG Perry meets a man who once thought he could change the world with his ego, but now just wants to understand it a bit better

RUSSELL BRAND HAS BEEN many things in his 41 years: stand-up comedian, heroin addict, movie star, Andrew-Sachs-offending national disgrace, reality TV host and three-time winner of *The Sun*'s 'Shagger of the Year', to name but six. And just when it looked like he was set to spend the rest of his days fopping around Hollywood as the token English eccentric, he recast himself as a real-life revolutionary. In October 2013, Brand used a *Newsnight* interview to call for "a socialist egalitarian system based on the massive redistribution of wealth, heavy taxation of corporations and massive responsibility for energy companies and any companies exploiting the environment".

It was a far cry from making k**b gags on a *Big Brother* spin-off, but it struck a chord with a public who at the time could only tell the difference between the three major political parties by looking at what colour tie their leader had on. Brand threw himself into activism, writing a book called *Revolution*, launching his YouTube channel *The Trews* and getting involved in the successful campaign to save the New Era housing

estate in Hackney from redevelopment. The media, however, largely focused on just one aspect of the original interview: the fact he'd told Jeremy Paxman that he didn't think people should vote. Then, on the eve of the 2015 election, Brand changed his mind and urged people to vote for Labour's Ed Miliband – who promptly lost resoundingly, and resigned.

In the wake of the election, Brand retreated from public view. He enrolled in a degree while the tabloids mocked his decision to move to a £3.3m house near Henley-on-Thames with his fiancée Laura Gallacher, who last year gave birth to a daughter they gave the deliberately un-celebrified name Mabel.

Having licked his wounds, Brand is resurrecting himself with a stand-up tour, *Re:Birth*, and a new show on Radio X. We meet him in the luxurious gardens of Danesfield House, a fancy hotel near his home that's so decidedly un-insurrectionist that George Clooney had his wedding after-party here. He's watching his "recalcitrant hound", a German Shepherd named Bear, lollop through the gardens. The dog, he says, has "self-control issues... I don't know where he's picked that up from."



RUSSELL BRAND

While he can't resist that knowing joke at his own expense, Brand in person now cuts a calm, sage figure. Wearing a Trews T-shirt and gym gear, hair tied up in a bun, beard flecked with grey, he's more Zen yoga enthusiast than marauding sex pirate. He may be less vocal with his righteous ire, but he still believes, despite mounting evidence to the contrary, that society need not be so venal. He even recently filmed himself registering to vote for the first time, meaning Britain's most notorious non-voter could be about to cast his first ballot. Which raises the question...

So, who are you going to vote for?
"I don't know, really. I don't know."

Do you have a message for people at this election?

"It's hard to get worked up about it to be honest, mate. After what I've been through."

Do you feel burned by what happened last time?

"It's something I'm circumspect about. I now know how the media works. That's why when you asked me who I'm going to vote for, I said, 'I don't know.' Not that I think of you as some sort of mendacious reptilian, any more than I am, but I know the news cycle. It will get picked up and there'll be people turning up at my house going: 'But you live in a nice house!' And I'll feel like, 'Oh right, here we are again.'"

Your "nice house" is in a safe Tory constituency, so you could argue it's unlikely your vote will have much impact anyway.

"My opinion on voting is evolving. We might be witnessing the end of democracy, although it may be hard to observe in the timeframe of one

human life. It makes you question whether any real change can be delivered. Having said that, if you listen to the pledges that the Labour Party are making, they are talking about collecting corporate taxes, cancelling tuition fees, getting rid of zero-hour contracts. Which is weird, because it was only two years ago that there were two centrist parties."

The 2015 election feels like a hundred lifetimes ago politically. You said in your Paxman interview that there was "definitely" going to be a revolution and in a way there was, but it was the revolution of Brexit and Trump.

"There has been a revolution, but I don't think it's over. What happens next, when people go, 'This anti-immigration thing is not working out for us. This shift to the right hasn't been hugely beneficial'?"

Do you see it as your role to use the attention you get as a celebrity to bring new ideas to the public?

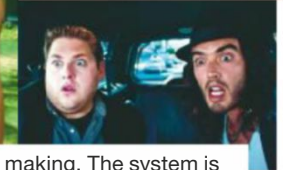
"Like a sort of charisma prostitute? I'm still trying to work it out, to be honest. Having experienced what happens when you're shoulder-barging the gates of the establishment with all your egoic might, I now know that's not the way to do it. Now I repose and reflect and think and learn."

When you talked to Paxman about systemic revolution it felt like you were saying something that's normally outside the spectrum of acceptable opinion.

"Have you seen that Noam Chomsky and Andrew Marr interview? Andrew Marr says, 'Do you think I'm censoring myself now?' and Chomsky says, 'No, you don't need to. Otherwise you wouldn't be sitting in that chair.' I love



(Clockwise from left:) In *Forgetting Sarah Marshall*; live on stage; in *Get Him To The Greek*



the point he's making. The system is self-correcting. I don't think change is something that can be managed through enthusiasm and egotism. If you want to be involved in that, it's a real discipline. I really respect Jeremy Corbyn, who's been in politics for 40 years or whatever. I've seen what his house looks like. He's not doing it for fellatio and grandiosity."

Is that why you're going to uni, to learn if there are long-term answers out there?

"There are answers. Remember, we're not competing with perfection [but] with a system that is pretty atrocious. We want systemic change. I think it's to do with the nature of consciousness and the nature of self. That kind of s**t

"I respect Jeremy Corbyn. I've seen what his house looks like. He's not doing it for fellatio and grandiosity"

Five essential Russell Brand works



MESSIAH COMPLEX (2013)

In this stand-up special, Brand finds increasingly spurious reasons to compare himself to his heroes: Che Guevara, Gandhi, Malcolm X and Jesus. **Watch:** Google Play, £2.49



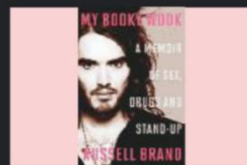
THE TREWS (Since 2014)

Brand has been using his YouTube channel to impart his own, er, brand of 'true news'. Ed Miliband stopped by for a chat on the eve of the 2015 election. **Watch:** youtube.com/russellbrand



THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES (2015)

This documentary with *The Trip* director Michael Winterbottom examines how our government's response to the 2008 financial crisis worsened global inequality. **Watch:** YouTube Movies, £2.49



MY BOOKY WOOL (2007)

Freewheeling memoir in which Brand recounts his early years, including tales of heroin addiction and being taken to visit prostitutes in Hong Kong by his dad. **Read:** All good bookshops, £8.99



END THE DRUGS WAR (2014)

A follow-up to his 2012 documentary *From Addiction To Recovery*, this film saw Brand take his message of abstinence-based recovery to a UN drugs conference in Vienna. **Watch:** Netflix

is pretty hard to introduce into a 'who do you vote for if you live in this constituency?' type of conversation, because it's more to do with shamanic interdimensional travel and love."

Russell Brand's emergence as a rabble-rouser may have surprised people, but he's always wanted to change the world. When he first moved to London from Grays in Essex, long before he was a celebrity, he made a low-budget TV show called *GADAFI* which used a series of pranks to fight the selling off of Spitalfields Market. But it was stand-up – inspired by the likes of Bill Hicks, who Brand describes as having a "beautiful rage" – that gave him the most direct route to launch his ideas into the world. While Hollywood may have elevated him to the echelons of the super-famous, he says it was always a detour.

If you were flicking channels and saw *Get Him To The Greek* was on, how would you react?

"It feels like another lifetime. About a year ago, *Forgetting Sarah Marshall* was on so I watched it for a bit. I feel very sentimentally attached to it because, while I didn't fully appreciate it at the time, it was kind of the realisation of a long-held dream."

Did the dream sour?

"Have you read David Foster Wallace's review of that cruise ship he went on? He says it feels like you're suspended in 'amniotic perfection'. The problem with luxury is that all of your needs are fulfilled as soon as you have them, forcing you to realise that you cannot be fulfilled in that way. Being a celebrity is like that. It's bewildering. All of that fame and glamour and being in newspapers and flown around in jets, you think it's about you, but that's just the symptoms of someone else making money from you."

Did you feel that you had become the product?

"Yeah, but you don't realise that because your ego goes: 'I am brilliant, I've always thought that!' Don't all con tricks work on the basis that that's what we want to believe? When I first went to Hollywood, they'd be going, 'You're great! We love you! You're f**king wonderful!' In the car after about five of these meetings I turned to my manager and went, 'It's weird, because everyone says people in Hollywood are manipulative liars, but they're actually really nice and honest!' I didn't realise until afterwards. 'Hold on a minute!' When you interface with someone on the level of their ego,

I cooky wook

Who Russell Brand would have round for dinner

NOEL GALLAGHER

"Sometimes he's just a normal, quite chippy bloke from Manchester, but at other times you glimpse his wisdom."

MORRISSEY

"He is his art. I asked him what a bit of 'Now My Heart Is Full' meant and he just went mysteriously: 'Oh, you know... The gang.' He's always obtuse and vague."

THE DALAI LAMA

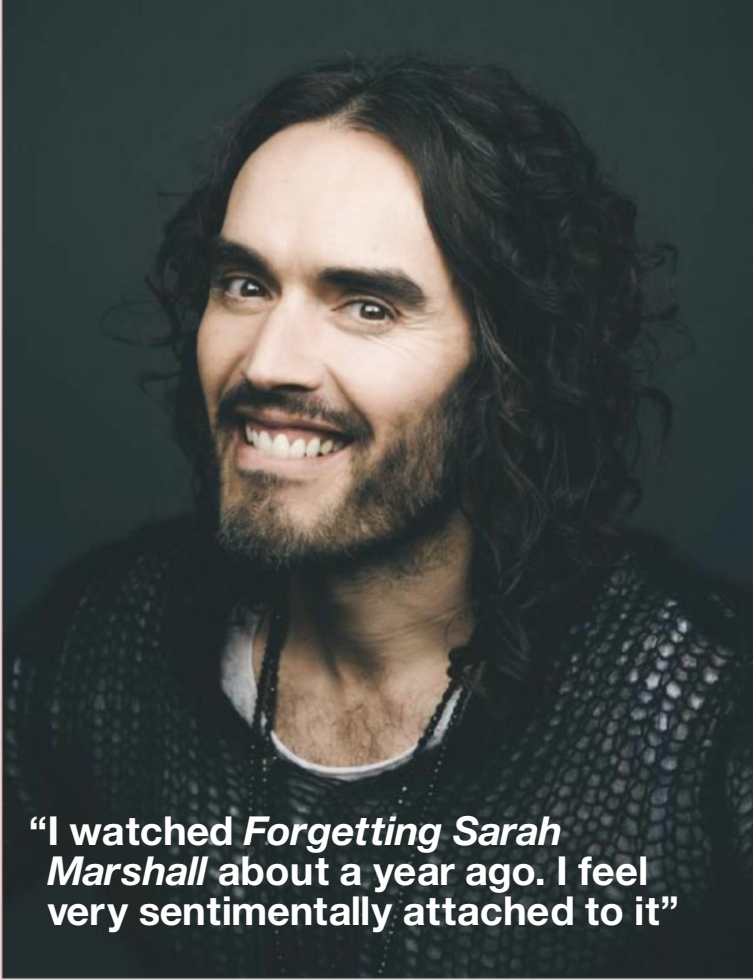
"When I met him he was really radiant and powerful, but the ephemera of celebrity was still around him. He had an entourage, a carpet that you weren't meant to walk on and he still got in a car and f**ked off."

OPRAH WINFREY

"I remember seeing her direct a show and she was an eminent force. She'd taken her shoes off and was directing barefoot. She was in her flow. That woman is powerful."

Your new stand-up show is called *Re:Birth*. Has becoming a father satisfied something in you that you'd previously tried to placate with fame, with sex and with drugs?

"Yeah, it has. The corollary of each of those things is transcendence of self. Fame means a version of you exists that is not you. Drugs take you out of yourself. Sex takes you out of yourself. They're all sort of transcendent. Fatherhood, literally



"I watched *Forgetting Sarah Marshall* about a year ago. I feel very sentimentally attached to it"

there's no limit to what you can get them to do. It's not easy to realise when you're in the midst of that because it's too brilliant. I mean 'brilliant' in the sense of blinding bright lights."

You're back on live radio for the first time since *Sachsgate*. You've been described as a 'high-wire' radio act, but part of the appeal of that act is that you might see them fall off. Do you worry that will happen again?

"I don't want to fall off. I've got responsibilities now. I do like flirting with

danger, but I'd prefer not to fall."

another person comes out of you and is of you. What it makes you realise, and this is the opposite of the con trick because you don't want to believe this is true, but you can't be happy if all you do is spend your time trying to make yourself happy."

While fatherhood may have transformed Brand's soul, it's done nothing to blunt his comic edge or delight at linguistic acrobatics. When I see him play Woking, he uses the story of watching the birth of his daughter to riff on the interconnectedness of humans ("vagina coming out of vagina. Russian dolls of vaginas"), with a glorious digression about the Sistine Chapel ("Took Michelangelo four years to paint that ceiling; I had these tiles done in three weeks. Who's the real genius?"). At the start of the show, he interviews audience members about their sexual escapades. His point is that if you scratch the surface of any ordinary town you'll find far filthier goings-on than anything that landed him in the tabloids. It works the other way too. He's been many different things in his time on earth, but Russell Brand is still one of us.

NME

Russell Brand: *Re:Birth* tours the country until July 2018. For tickets and info, visit russellbrand.com



How to get a million Facebook likes in a year

JAY SHETTY

WHO: Philosophical motivational speaker, former monk

AGE: 29

WHAT HE DOES: In his own words, Shetty makes wisdom go viral. You know those pics of wise-looking people saying wise-sounding things that pop up in your feed all the time? Yeah, that kind of wisdom. People are well into it.

LIKES: 1,058,778



How to get a book deal via Twitter

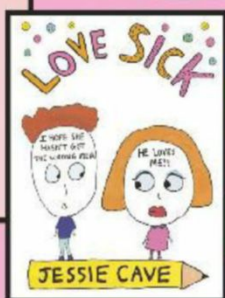
JESSIE CAVE

WHO: Actor, comedian and illustrator

AGE: 29

WHAT SHE DOES: Cave is a comedian and actor (*Harry Potter*, *Pride*) whose brutally honest illustrations were such a Twitter hit that many of them got turned into a book. She now sells illustrations too.

FOLLOWERS: 108,035



1 BE SHAMELESS

Tell everyone about your page. Promote it on Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat. Submit your content to big pages like UNILAD and Viral Thread to see if they'll share it – a lot of pages are looking for unique, quality content to feature.

2 BE 'ON' ALL THE TIME

The best pages post daily, on the hour, every hour for 12-18 hours of the day. Have a clear message people can connect to and make sure it's reflected in your work.

3 KEEP YOUR POSTS BRIEF

You have three to eight seconds to capture someone's attention: long intros won't do that. Short videos do well on Facebook – so learning how to convey your message succinctly is crucial.

4 KNOW YOUR AUDIENCE

Think about *why* people come to your page. And when they do, you should be grateful: reply to as many messages as you can, like people's comments, show people you care. No one cares how much you know until they know how much *you* care.

5 BE YOURSELF

Raw passion, energy, charisma, personality and authenticity are the most valuable attributes of any channel. People want to follow a person who has perspective but is also humble, likeable and positive.

Follow Jay on Facebook at en-gb.facebook.com/JayShettyIW/ and Instagram (@shettyjay)

HOW TO K SOCIAL

People carving a living out of Twitter and YouTube tell Larry

1 KEEP IT SIMPLE

I like the people who've had the same profile pic for years – they seem too cool to care about such frivolous things as updating an avatar. It's also important not to cram too much information into a bio. Something simple like "cats, burritos and feminism" and then a link to your website, to show you have a job.

2 BE CONSISTENT

Tweet three times a day, with your meals. Be reliable for your amazing WWW content. My most honest and, arguably, most depressing doodles about love do the best for me. I like to think it's because people get home from a bad date and see one and think: 'Yep'.

3 DON'T OVER-TWEET

Don't be one of those people that, when we have a moment to check Twitter, there you are, yet again...

4 SHOW YOUR PERSONALITY

Consistency, reliability and quality are key – but every so often I like a bit of raw honesty.

5 BE AUTHENTIC

Be yourself, be a bit rude, be informative and unique. Easy! When somebody famous retweets you, just wait for the onslaught of new admirers.

Follow Jessie on Twitter (@jessiecave). Her doodles are available at jessiedoodles.com and her book *LOVE SICK* is in shops now.

1 FIND YOUR NICHE AND DO IT WELL

Snapchat is crowded with people posting snaps of their food, their nails and Tube selfies: if you want to stand out and be interesting, you have to be unique. Build your content around a genuine interest and your enthusiasm will attract a following.

2 BE SELECTIVE

We all love Drake, but do we want to sit through 13 minutes' worth of 10-second blurry Snapchat videos of his concert? Probably not.

3 INVOLVE YOUR FOLLOWERS

Reality TV stars and vloggers are successful online because they've built a following based on appearing accessible.

Replicate a similar sense of intimacy with the accounts that follow you to get regular views and engagement.

4 DON'T GO QUIET

Post regularly if you want to gain a permanent following. I've seen a decrease in my following and views if I've been inactive for a while.

5 DON'T TAKE YOURSELF TOO SERIOUSLY

There's nothing more off-putting than someone desperate to build a following and using cheap, exploitative methods to do so. Be yourself, be original, and the following will grow.

Follow Minnie on Snapchat
@minniemcgee

How to sell your art with Snapchat



MINNIE MCGEE

WHO: Artist and model

AGE: 23

WHAT SHE DOES: Intersperses promotion of her artistic output with to-the-point Snapchat updates on her day-to-day.

FOLLOWERS: 110,000



ILL IT ON MEDIA

of Facebook, Snapchat, Bartleet how they're doing it

1 HAVE A VISION

Offer your audience something specific, whether that's comedic value, advice, knowledge or whatever else.

2 BE DOGGED

It's not easy going, especially to start with. You put in a lot of hours and a lot of time for, to be honest, not that many views. But you do it because you enjoy it.

3 DON'T BE A CLOWN

Be yourself and people will instantly warm to you. If you're playing a character, people will go, 'I'm not sure if I trust that person.'

How to earn money from YouTube

4 KEEP IT REGULAR

YouTube now seems to favour regular uploads, which means you have to keep it interesting, fun and different. That puts more pressure on the creator but if you enjoy it, it shouldn't be too hard to be creative.

5 MAKE USE OF THE FORMAT

Ask other YouTubers what they want to see: that's a constant stream of content ideas there.

Follow The Lean Machines at
[youtube.com/user/TheLeanMachines](https://www.youtube.com/user/TheLeanMachines)

NME

THE LEAN MACHINES

WHO: Protein-powered exercise gurus

AGES: Both 29

WHAT THEY DO: Since launching on YouTube in 2011, fitness bros John Chapman and Leon Bustin have been providing personal training and health coaching to a growing army of followers. Videos include 'How To Improve Your Deadlift FAST', 'What NOT To Do When Trying To Lose Weight' and 'Home Workout With The Lean Machines'.

SUBSCRIBERS: 370,629





WHERE DO YOU GO AFTER WRITING THE BIGGEST SONG OF ALL TIME?

In 2015, Danish oddball **MØ** co-wrote 'Lean On', the most streamed song of all time. As she announces her biggest ever tour, **Nick Levine** finds out how its mega-success impacted on **MØ's** second album – and her life

“

It's something I think about from time to time,”

MØ replies, when I ask how ‘Lean On’ re-routed her career path. Released in March 2015, her Major Lazer collaboration exploded to become Spotify’s most-streamed song ever until Drake’s ‘One Dance’ came along. Two years later, whack on an episode of *Geordie Shore* or *Ibiza Weekender* and you’ll hear a flow of songs that borrow from its tough-edged tropical-dance sound.

“I couldn’t really analyse it until some time had passed,” MØ continues. “But now I’ve digested the whole thing, I can see it changed things for me, on many levels. Of course the media started to be more aware of me. But also, a lot of doors opened: people you want to work with are suddenly open to working with you. I mean, I’ve always dreamed about having a song that became a hit. But also, very importantly, it was a song I really loved and didn’t compromise how I see myself as an artist.”

It would be unfair to suggest MØ, now 28, was a nobody before ‘Lean On’. The Danish singer-songwriter, known as Karen Marie Ørsted to the people who check her passport, released her impressive debut album ‘No Mythologies To Follow’ in 2014. The same year, her glitch-pop cover of the Spice Girls’ ‘Say You’ll Be There’ built buzz online. Yet MØ admits today that she felt like “a small fish in the water” before ‘Lean On’ went supernova, ensuring in the process that her stage name will be mispronounced forever. “MØ” isn’t supposed to rhyme with “go” – it actually sounds more like “Murgh” – but that’s how everyone outside of Denmark says it now anyway.

Lean On’ was no fluke. MØ and Major Lazer re-teamed last year for ‘Cold Water’, another huge hit that also featured Justin Bieber on vocals and Ed Sheeran as its co-writer. MØ followed it with superb solo smash ‘Final Song’ and the appealingly hedonistic new single ‘Nights With You’.

Five essential MØ bangers

Get ‘em in a playlist right now

‘SAY YOU’LL BE THERE’ 2014

MØ turns the Spice Girls classic into an emotional slow jam.

‘LEAN ON’ 2015

Her globe-conquering Major Lazer collaboration introduced a new, dancehall-inspired sound.

‘FINAL SONG’ 2016

Tough yet vulnerable, MØ’s first big solo hit is a perfect pop song.

‘COLD WATER’ 2016

MØ trades vocals with Justin Bieber on her second massive Major Lazer collaboration.

‘3AM (PULL UP)’ 2017

She teams up with fellow pop oddball Charli XCX for this box-fresh electro banger.

for me at that time. I remember that I was super-grateful for the opportunity and I was like, ‘Maybe this isn’t the right look for me, but I’m not too good not to try it.’ I wanted to try it so I would find out whether or not I should’ve done it. And I thought

THE TWO SIDES OF MØ

She likes punk.

ON HER PUNK HEROINE: KIM GORDON

“I want to make music that makes people think, ‘Wow! What’s this?’ The first time I heard Kim Gordon from Sonic Youth I was like, ‘Ahh, this is f**ked-up!’ It just inspired me so much, and that’s the effect I want my music to have on people.”

And also pop!

ON HER POP HEROES: SPICE GIRLS

“Seriously, I was the biggest Spice Girls fan – they’re the reason I started making music. So when I got to sing ‘Say You’ll Be There’ with Mel C at my London gig last year, it was just a beautiful moment and almost too much. I could feel myself wanting to cry, but I had to stop myself because then I wouldn’t have been able to sing!”

Her second album will arrive later this year. “I want to reach a lot of people, but not at any cost,” she says today. “There’s this weird thing with me: as a child, I was a big, big fan of pop music. But then as a teenager, I was into punk and activism and I was super, super anti-everything. Now, as a grown-up, I wanna do both. My dream is to reach a lot of people and be a mainstream artist, but I still want my music to be edgy and push things.” And bring some gutsy punk attitude into pop? “Yeah, exactly! I want to make pop music, but why would you make pop music that just sounds like everything else?”

As MØ rises, she’s also mastered the art of pop star diplomacy. In 2014, she recorded ‘Beg For It’ with Iggy Azalea, who was far cooler then than she is now. The track was decent, but when the pair performed it together on *Saturday Night Live* it was painful to watch: Azalea delivered polished pop moves, while MØ stood stranded next to her, an awkward afterthought. “I have no regrets at all,” MØ says today. “I just think it was a very different move

she was badass and I always wanna support cool women.”

To that end, she praises Katy Perry for embracing the idea of “purposeful pop” with ‘Chained To The Rhythm’, her subtly political new single. “I think it’s f**king cool she’s doing that!” MØ says excitedly. “We’re living in f**ked-up times, and I actually thought it would take longer for the big artists to start doing something about it. I think it’s a really brave move from Katy Perry – and it’s good that the song isn’t like, ‘F**k Trump!’ You can interpret it as you want, but it has a message. I want more of that kind of pop music.”

And what message does MØ want to share in her own music? “I can’t say this without sounding cheesy,” she says, “but I think my message is: ‘Be open-minded and open your heart to everybody.’ Especially nowadays, it’s so important that we aren’t fearful of one another. And f**k, I know it sounds like a cliché, but just be yourself. Because it’s just so much better for you, in so many ways.”

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MØ’s new single ‘Nights With You’ is out now. Buy tickets for her UK tour here: momomoyouth.com

The ‘Lean On’ video



BIGGER AND
BETTER
THAN EVER

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TEES, HOODIES, MUGS & MORE

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RADAR

THIS WEEK'S ESSENTIAL NEW RELEASES

BEST FOR MAKING A MOVE

NIALL HORAN
Slow Hands

The One Directioner is all grown up with this guitar-funk track that's basically a three-minute-long chat-up line.

BEST FOR HAZY DAYS

CHILDHOOD
Californian Light

The first single from the south Londoners' new album 'Universal High' is a dreamy delight.

BEST FOR HITTING HOLLYWOOD

HAIM
Want You Back

The Los Angeles sisters go full Fleetwood Mac on this 1970s-style classic-rock stunner.

BEST FOR CATCHING THE SUN

PARAMORE
Told You So

New album 'After Laughter' is out today; Hayley Williams and co add yet more colour to their sound with a rush of tropical rhythms on this electro-pop tune.

Best NEW tracks

And when to drop them

BEST FOR RAISING YOUR LIGHTERS

SUNDARA KARMA
Explore

Reading indie rockers meld Maccabees majesty to Foals-esque massiveness on this guitar anthem.



SUNDARA KARMA

BEST FOR MAKING YOU THINK

PJ HARVEY
I'll Be Waiting

PJ tells the story of a war-ravaged child in this stark, disturbing song.

BEST FOR KICKING BACK

SUPERFOOD
I Can't See

Wonky reggae meets laidback Britpop by way of the Beastie Boys at their most zen. Highly intriguing stuff from the Brummie band.

BEST FOR SIPPING COCKTAILS

SHY LUV
Time

If you like your disco tunes sounding straight out of 1982, then seek out this synthy smasher – complete with funky flute solo.

BEST FOR DANCING YOURSELF CLEAN

LCD SOUNDSYSTEM

Call The Police/ American Dream

Praise be, for James Murphy's dancefloor warriors are back with two huge, belting tunes. We've missed you.

BEST FOR SHAKING IT

FLAMINGODS

Mixed Blessings

The psych gang get trippy on this groove-driven epic that comes over like Goat meets Tame Impala. Delightful.

PARAMORE

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MUSIC

STRANGE & TRUE

The album's title, Weller explains, is about how "Change can't come through violence or force. There's too much of that already. It's got to be something spiritual, a collective awakening."

Changing man

A textbook study in growing old gracefully

IT'S 40 YEARS since Paul Weller first sang about "the young idea" on The Jam's 1977 track 'In The City', but as he approaches 60, the passage of time has become a far more potent muse than the fires of youth. Weller began work on 'A Kind Revolution', his 25th studio album (with The Jam, Style Council and as a solo artist), almost immediately after completing his last one, 2015's 'Saturns Pattern', and apparently has a follow-up written and ready to go, continuing the remarkable late-career renaissance he's had for the last decade or so. He's at an age where he'd be forgiven for resting on his laurels with one eye on his

PAUL WELLER
A Kind Revolution



R&B DISCO-FUNK
OLD DOG NEW TRICKS

**A KIND
REVOL
UTION**
PAUL WELLER

legacy, but Weller himself remains focused on the next great song he hasn't written yet.

On that front, 'A Kind Revolution' adds a few more to the arsenal. The gravelly R&B stomp of opening track 'Woo Sé Mama' is a peacock-suited nod to Dr John, while 'Long Long Road' finds him in familiar blue-eyed balladeering mode. Yet 'A Kind Revolution' never stays in one place long enough to be pigeonholed as one thing or the other. For proof of that, you need look no further than his choice of guest stars – perhaps only Weller could coax Robert Wyatt out of retirement for the jazzy 'She Moves With The Fayre', then rope in Boy George for the pulsating disco-funk of 'One Tear'.

The popular caricature of

Weller as a cantankerous craftsman of yer da's 'real music' has always been overplayed, yet rarely has it felt so comically wide of the mark: in the rare moments where 'A Kind Revolution' doesn't quite hit the mark, it's never through any lack of invention or imagination. "I can't seem to let it go / There's too much to do," he sings on the album's Bowie-esque lead single 'Nova', signalling that he's nowhere near ready to take up the pipe and slippers. He may have started out as the quintessential angry young man, but he's become a textbook study in growing old gracefully – by doggedly refusing to stay set in his ways, Paul Weller keeps finding new ones to surprise us. **Barry Nicolson**

Pwr to the people

PWR BTM

Pageant



TRIUMPHANT PUNK GLITTER



ALBUM
OF THE
WEEK

Forthright, queer punk duo's second album is a fun-filled discovery of self-belief

NOBODY DOES fun quite like PWR BTM. The New York duo of Liv Bruce and Ben Hopkins throw glitter and wild shapes on stage, and not one of their spirited live shows is like the other. Second album 'Pageant' follows 2015 debut and cult favourite 'Ugly Cherries'. Both records give brutally honest, direct accounts of identifying as queer in a hostile environment, whether it's being the subject of insults from across the street or seeing individuality as strength.

Not one of 'Pageant's' songs goes over the three-minute mark. PWR BTM like to express witty, honesty-first stories via saw-toothed garage punk, which is no coincidence.

In doing so, they embrace and take on a traditionally masculine genre usually reserved for crude d**k jokes. Opening track 'Silly' starts with a glorious, Van Halen-style finger-picked solo. And were it not for the title track's sincere account about body confidence, it could be mistaken for a Green Day classic.

Bruce and Hopkins pack diary-like stories into punchy, fire-breathing juggernauts. The duo specialise in documenting their own struggles and self-doubt, but it's always outward-facing. In turn, 'Pageant' becomes a calling card for anyone who feels like they can't express themselves. "Curse that motherf**ker!" Hopkins shouts on 'Big Beautiful Day', damning

Best track

SISSY

An uncompromising anthem.

Bruce wrestles with the idea of being boring and conventional before declaring, "I'm a big, bad sissy and I'm gonna make you listen when I say."

all the "men in town who live to bring you down". The paranoid 'Answer My Text' is an emoji-filled, modern-day twist on relationship woes.

PWR BTM have a skill for telling ultra-personal stories without any unnecessary baggage. "I'm beautiful and you can't take it / I'm heavenly and you can't deal," they proudly shout on 'Sissy'. The duo use fun to become fearless, combating fear with every ounce of inner strength they can find. 'Pageant' is the sound of a band truly hitting their stride. **Larry Bartleet**

Liv Bruce and Ben Hopkins



PHOTO: EBRU YILDIZ

A sequel with teeth

Ridley Scott's third *Alien* film, and sequel to 2012's *Prometheus*, strikes a balance of action, horror and good old-fashioned chest-bursting

ALIEN: COVENANT

15 Michael Fassbender, Katherine Waterston, Billy Crudup



SPACE BLOOD THEOLOGY

THE FIRST TRAILER FOR *Alien: Covenant*, the sequel to 2012's *Prometheus* and second prequel to 1979's *Alien*, was essentially a two-minute bloodbath. For those disappointed by *Prometheus*'s focus on the origin of the species – and its scant sightings of actual *Alien* aliens as we know them – the message was clear: more baddies, more explosions, more, more, more.

There was no false advertising. *Alien: Covenant*, the third to be directed by series originator Ridley Scott, makes fan service a priority. We join the crew of the *Covenant*, a colony ship sending a cargo of frozen humans to an Earth-like planet to establish a new society, taking an ill-advised diversion to an uncharted world. They land to find they're in an extreme version of *The Island With Bear Grylls*, a rain-sodden planet showing evidence of a Pompeii-like cataclysm and now inhabited by aliens,

sinister spores and Michael Fassbender's messianic android, David. Don't drink the water, you think, yet those spores get around anyway and aliens – proper, mouth-in-mouth, helmet-head, HR Giger mofos – are born, and everything gets flesh-flappy and gun-happy as a result.

So that's the bit that echoes James Cameron's lauded 1986 sequel *Aliens*, but thanks to the gnomic David, threads are drawn connecting *Prometheus*'s tangential plot to the *Alien* cannon, and there's a single-alien-on-board situation that echoes the hunter-prey tension of the first instalment (set 20-ish years after *Covenant*), too. There's no reprise of 1997's *Alien Resurrection* or the *Alien Vs. Predator* movies of the 2000s, happily.

So, in many ways, *Alien: Covenant* follows the format of the new *Star Wars* films and *Jurassic World* – sequels with a smack of the remake about them, but bigger, shinier and sexier. There's a strong female lead in Katherine Waterston, a ship that looks like the Industrial Zone of *The Crystal Maze*, a crew of dispensable individuals in space overalls who meet gag-reflex-inducing deaths. And there's a chest-burster that makes the one in *Alien* look like a rogue sock puppet.

In Ridley Scott's hands, though, you still feel like you're watching something of great quality and its prevailing subtexts – creation myths, God complexes, evolution theory – answer some long-held questions about the *Alien* universe. If you've ever enjoyed an *Alien* film, this one is worth spending two hours in space for. **Dan Stubbs**



EVENT

HORIZON

Cult 1997 movie concerning the titular space

station, a hostile entity on board and a crew suffering a seriously fruity bout of space madness.



Johnny Harris
and Michael Smiley



A cut above

London-based boxing drama that combines stellar fighting with personal tragedy

JAWBONE

15 Johnny Harris, Ray Winstone, Ian McShane



ALCOHOL BOXING REGRET

THE TITLE OF THIS sinewy boxing drama refers to a passage about Samson, the super-strong biblical figure who was sworn off wine and would lose his strength if he shaved his hair. South Londoner Jimmy McCabe, *Jawbone*'s protagonist, has a debilitating drink problem and a symbolically close-shaven head, but he also suffers a load of difficulties Samson never knew: he's facing eviction from his council flat, he's lost all his family and thanks to his alcoholism he's no longer

welcome at the club that years ago made him a junior boxing champion. "I'm not a beggar!" he yelps at one stranger while asking for money for a phone call. "I've left my phone at home." Jimmy owns neither a home nor a phone.

It's no surprise to see Johnny Harris (*London To Brighton, This Is England '86-'90*) in the role of Jimmy. The difference with *Jawbone* is that it's Harris's debut as screenwriter – and it's also the feature debut for director Thomas Q. Napper. But the power of Harris's wounded

underdog story has roped in big names such as Ray Winstone, who plays Jimmy's gruff mentor Bill, and Ian McShane, whose character, slimy Joe, offers Jimmy a few grand if he agrees to face an unbeaten young talent in an unlicensed boxing match. From here on out, it's Jimmy's ill-advised David-vs-Goliath punt that becomes the film's primary focus.

Unravelling Jimmy's story slowly, *Jawbone* begins with a series of beautiful but painful scenes, including a drunken stupor that's genuinely taxing to watch and a wonderful tracking shot that pits Jimmy's doomed estate against some glossy high-rises in the near distance. These quiet moments in the film's first half help build a detailed portrait of the character and his quest for redemption.

Thanks to the length of *Jawbone*'s balletic boxing sequence, Jimmy's issues begin to feel slightly token – but before it's all over, Harris's deft script slams them back into focus and the effect is like a punch to the face. **Larry Bartleet**

STRANGE & TRUE

Paul Weller's compositions for the film had an impact on its story. Writer Johnny Harris says: "A beautifully collaborative process evolved... Paul's compositions were inspiring and influencing the story as I was rewriting it."

Under THE RADAR

YOU HEARD IT HERE FIRST

Sløtface

Political pop-punk that's perfect for parties

Every Sløtface song is a revolution in three minutes or less – pop-punk party anthems laced with hooks and ideas. Meet one of 2017's most exciting new guitar bands.

Do you feel like you're out on your own in being a new band with 'a message' to your music?

Haley: "For our sake, our whole thing is trying to write pop music that's catchy enough but is actually about something important. Like we're tricking you into listening to this feminist anthem with super-clear tendencies. Everybody is singing about the same clichés, so I think everything is about to turn because the world is craving something different."
Lasse: "Just having that conversation creates some hope. You're creating a space with that dialogue."

You went down a storm at SXSW, and not just for your music – wasn't there a backlash for CNN reporting on your anti-Trump stance?

Tor-Arne: "The funny thing about that is no one really said we were wrong. There were just hundreds of people going, 'Who the f**k are these kids and why should we care?'"

Haley: "That's literally the part that they cut. I said, 'We don't live in America, it's not our job to be commenting on American politics. We all agree that it's pretty f**ked-up that Trump is president.' That's not a controversial statement for a punk band to make. There is no controversy in this."

What can we expect from your debut album 'Try Not To Freak Out' when it's released in September?

Haley: "We just wanted it to be the 10 best songs that we could write. It's all about being in your twenties and not really knowing what you're going to do with your life. It's about anxiety and guilt and feeling like you're always doing something wrong. Like you're always in the wrong place."

What's the one thing that people say about you that really p*sses you off?

Tor-Arne: "People have asked if the three guys in the band can really be feminist, as males. Why not? Is that so hard to imagine?"

Andrew Trendell

"It's fked-up that Trump is president"**

Slotface (l-r): Tor-Arne
Vikingstad, Lasse Lokøy,
Hayley Shea, Halvard
Skeie Wiencke

THE DETAILS

FROM: Bergen, Norway

SOCIAL: @Slotfaceband

LIVE: The Great Escape,
Brighton (May 18-19),
Truck Festival, Oxfordshire
(July 23), Leeds Festival
(August 25), Reading
Festival (August 27)

BUY: New single 'Magazine'
is out now

FOR FANS OF



WOLF ALICE



LOS CAMPESINOS!

STRANGE & TRUE

The band used to be called
'Slutface' but had to change
the 'u' to an 'o' due to 'social
media censorship'.

Best track

SHAVE MY HEAD

Feverish feminist punk
that's the ultimate
party-starter showstopper.

LIKE THIS? TRY THIS!



ELASTICA Elastica

Barbed indie-
punk to dance
your way through
the pitfalls of the modern age.
Riot-grrrl music with balls.



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live

THIS WEEK'S BEST TICKETS AND GIGS



Brighton rocks

The south coast town will be brimming with new talent for this year's Great Escape festival

FROM THURSDAY TO Saturday next week, more than 200 artists will descend on Brighton for The Great Escape, Britain's biggest festival dedicated to new music. It sprawls across 32 venues and primarily packs them out with new talent. Among the hundreds of acts on show, it won't be hard to single out the pink-everything north London maelstrom Girli, who spent 2016 putting out LOL-heavy hyperpop

bangers like 'ASBOys' and 'Girls Get Angry Too'. The Japanese House will be another hot ticket: Amber Bain toured with The 1975 last year and her recent single 'Saw You In A Dream' shows her continuing to refine her heart-on-sleeve synthpop. Chelmsford's favourite indie upstart Rat Boy is there too, fresh from being sampled by Kendrick Lamar on his new album 'DAMN.'

There's almost too much

great stuff to be able to take it all in: massive pop from Norwegian newcomer Sigrid; smooth electro from Skepta collaborator Fifi Rong; raucous rock from young ruffians King Nun; weird, snake-hipped indie from HMLTD; funky basslines from Confidence Man; dancehall-roasted rap from Stefflon Don; lush dream-pop from Jay Som; knife-sharp indie from Marika Hackman. Plan your days wisely.

FESTIVAL

THE GREAT ESCAPE

Various venues, Brighton

ON SALE NOW

MAY 18-20

LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS:

Avelino, Childhood, Confidence Man, Cosima, Dream Wife, Estrons, Fifi Rong, GIRLI, HMLTD, The Japanese House, Jay Som, Kano, King Nun, Little Cub, Marika Hackman, Nilüfer Yanya, Pumarosa, Ray BLK, Rat Boy, Rejjie Snow, Sigrid... Tons, basically.

TICKETS: £65

**ON SALE
NOW**



FATHER JOHN MISTY

Doomsday's piano man

NOVEMBER

Wed 1 Usher Hall, Edinburgh

Thu 2 O2 Academy, Glasgow

Sun 5 O2 Apollo, Manchester

Tue 7 Eventim Apollo, London

TELL ME MORE: The balladeer's lyrics have never been funnier or more incisive than on April's career best 'Pure Comedy'.
TICKETS: £22.50-£27.50



THUNDERCAT

Kendrick Lamar's go-to jazz guy

NOVEMBER

Tue 14 O2 ABC, Glasgow

Wed 15 Albert Hall, Manchester

Thu 16 O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire, London

TELL ME MORE: Applauded for his appearances on Kendrick's 'To Pimp A Butterfly', the bassist has just put out third album 'Drunk'.
TICKETS: £24.75-£31.35



SAD13

Speedy Ortiz's vocalist

MAY

Wed 17 The Crofters Rights, Bristol

Thu 18 The Boileroom, Guildford

Tue 23 The Hug & Pint, Glasgow

Wed 24 The Eagle Inn, Manchester

Thu 25 The Boston Music Room, London

TELL ME MORE: The indie-rocker released her fizzing solo debut album 'Slugger' in 2016.
TICKETS: £11-£13.20

live



TEI SHI

Inventive alt-R&B artist from Argentina

JUNE

Sat 17 Patterns, Brighton

Sun 18 Brudenell Social Club, Leeds

Mon 19 Deaf Institute, Manchester

Tue 20 Islington Assembly Hall, London

TELL ME MORE: Valerie Teicher's solo debut 'Crawl Space' was released at the end of March.
TICKETS: £11-£15.40



POPCAAN

Jamaican dancehall pro

JUNE

Fri 30 O2 Institute, Birmingham

JULY

Sat 1 Eventim Apollo, London

Sun 2 O2 Ritz, Manchester

TELL ME MORE: In the past couple of years the 28-year-old has worked with Jamie xx, Gorillaz and AlunaGeorge.
TICKETS: £30-£37.50

OPEN'ER FESTIVAL

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JUNE 28 – JULY 01, 2017 **GDYNIA**, *POLAND*

GDYNIA-KOSAKOWO AIRPORT

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MICHAEL KIWANUKA / SOLANGE / RAE SREMMURD

NATALIA PRZYBYSZ / SORRY BOYS / WACŁAW ZIMPEL / KUBA ZIOŁEK

FOO FIGHTERS 29.06

G-EAZY / THE KILLS

CHARLI XCX / JIMMY EAT WORLD

A_GIM / BITAMINA / HADES

THE WEEKND 30.06

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JMSN / KIASMOS / WARPAINT

DARIA ZAWIAŁOW / HAŃBA! / RALPH KAMINSKI

THE XX 1.07

GEORGE EZRA

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O.S.T.R. / TACO HEMINGWAY

BUSLAV / DUIT / KEVIN MORBY / JULIA PIETRUCHA

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THE WEEK'S BEST GIGS

ANGEL OLSEN

Thu 18 Rock City,
Nottingham

ARIANA GRANDE

Thu 18 Genting Arena,
Birmingham

BABEHEAVEN

Thu 18 The Old Fire
Station, Sheffield

BEBE REXHA

Thu 18 KOKO, London

BETSY

Fri 12 Memorial Hall,
Newport

Sun 14 Soup Kitchen,
Manchester

Mon 15 Moth Club,
London

C DUNCAN

Fri 12 Band on the Wall,
Manchester

Sat 13 Leadmill,
Sheffield

Sun 14 The Caves,
Edinburgh

CHARLOTTE CHURCH

Fri 12 O2 Institute,
Birmingham

CLAY

Thu 18 Clwb Ifor Bach,
Cardiff

CLEAN CUT KID

Fri 12 Sound Control,
Manchester

THE CRIBS

Fri 12 Academy,
Manchester

Sat 13 O2 Institute,
Birmingham

Mon 15 O2 Academy,
Newcastle

Tue 16 O2 Academy,
Bristol

Thu 18 O2 Forum,
London

CROWS

Fri 12 Roundhouse,
London

DAGNY

Mon 15 Oslo, London

DAN CROLL

Fri 12 Stereo,
Glasgow

Sat 13 The Wardrobe,
Leeds

Sun 14 Sound

Control, Manchester

Tue 16 Heaven,

London

Wed 17 The Rainbow

Complex, Birmingham

Thu 18 Thekla, Bristol

DECLAN MCKENNA

Mon 15 Thekla,
Bristol

Tue 16 The Junction,
Cambridge

Wed 17 Gorilla,
Manchester

DUCKTAILS

Fri 12 The Lexington,
London

Sat 13 The Old
England, Bristol

FRANK TURNER

Sat 13 & Sun 14

Roundhouse, London

GOTHIC TROPIC

Wed 17 The Victoria,
London

HER'S

Tue 16 Sneaky Pete's,
Edinburgh

J HUS

Sun 14 Waterfront,
Norwich

Tue 16 Saint Luke's,
Glasgow

Thu 18 The Limelight,
Belfast



BEBE REXHA

THE JAPANESE HOUSE

Fri 12 O2 Academy,
Leicester

Sat 13 O2 Institute,
Birmingham

Mon 15 Think Tank?,
Newcastle

Tue 16 Rescue Rooms,
Nottingham

Wed 17 KOKO, London

JAX JONES

Fri 12 Gorilla,
Manchester

KAGOULE

Sat 13 Night & Day
Café, Manchester

KANE STRANG

Mon 15 Gullivers,
Manchester

Tue 16 Headrow House,
Leeds

Wed 17 The Lexington,
London

KISHI BASHI

Fri 12 Soup Kitchen,
Manchester

Sat 13 The Louisiana,
Bristol

Sun 14 Oslo, London

Mon 15 The Hope &
Ruin, Brighton

KLYNE

Mon 15 The Pickle
Factory, London

THE MAGIC GANG

Fri 12 Heaven, London

MAXIMO PARK

Fri 12 Royal Festival
Hall, London

Sat 13 De La Warr

Pavilion, Bexhill-on-Sea

Mon 15 The Junction,
Cambridge

Tue 16 Tramshed,
Cardiff

Wed 17 Princess
Pavilion, Falmouth

METRONOMY

Tue 16 O2 ABC,
Glasgow

Wed 17 Albert Hall,
Manchester

THE PARROTS

Wed 17 Esquires,
Bedford

PART CHIMP

Thu 18 The Portland
Arms, Cambridge

PAVES

Sat 13 Jimmy's,
Manchester

REX ORANGE COUNTY

Fri 12 The Peckham
Liberal Club, London

ROYAL BLOOD

Wed 17 Corn Exchange,
Cambridge

Thu 18 O2 Academy,
Newcastle

RYLEY WALKER

Thu 18 The Bullingdon,
Oxford

SIGRID

Mon 15 The Deaf
Institute, Manchester

Wed 17 Hoxton Bar
& Grill, London

TEN FÉ

Wed 17 Corsica
Studios, London

THEE OH SEES

Tue 16 Rock City,
Nottingham

Wed 17 De La
Warr Pavilion,
Bexhill-on-Sea

TWIN ATLANTIC

Thu 18 The Beach
Ballroom, Aberdeen

THE VIEW

Fri 12 Tramshed,
Cardiff

Sat 13 Hangar,
Liverpool

Sun 14 University
Union, Sheffield

Tue 16 The Old Fire
Station, Carlisle

Wed 17 & Thu 18
Liquid Rooms,
Edinburgh

WILL JOSEPH COOK

Fri 12 The Bullingdon,
Oxford

YUNA

Tue 16 KOKO, London

SOUNDTRACK OF MY LIFE

Ben Fogle

Lovely posho and global adventurer

THE FIRST SONG I REMEMBER HEARING

SCRITTI POLITTI

The Word Girl

"It was a very famous Scritti Politti song – their big tune! Dad's Canadian, so he always had quite unusual music around. I remember a lot of 'Weird Al' Yankovic."

THE FIRST SONG I FELL IN LOVE WITH

GIORGIO MORODER
WITH PHILIP OAKEY

Together In

Electric Dreams

"It was written for the film *Electric Dreams*, about a computer that falls in love with a person – I loved that film. It's ludicrous and the most dated film possible, a big old computer falling in love with a person! Funnily enough it's probably going to happen in the future now, isn't it?"

THE SONG I CAN'T GET OUT OF MY HEAD

ED SHEERAN

Castle On The Hill

"My daughter is obsessed with – what's the main Ed Sheeran song right now? 'Over The Hill' or something like that? I'm not a natural Ed Sheeran listener, but it's always on at home and I like listening to it because it reminds me of her."

THE SONG THAT REMINDS ME OF HOME

THE NOTORIOUS

B.I.G.

Hypnotize

"It's brilliant. My daughter loves it. She doesn't listen to the words – I'm not advocating the words. Luckily she's not listening to all of that yet – she's five."

THE SONG I CAN NO LONGER LISTEN TO

DIZZEE RASCAL

Bonkers

"I did use to love Dizzee Rascal's 'Bonkers'. It was my gym workout song. But then I did it as my *Lip Sync Battle* song, so I listened to it about 10 thousand million times – and with all due respect to Dizzee, I can't listen to it anymore."

THE BAND THAT CHANGED MY LIFE

RED HOT
CHILI PEPPERS

"When we rowed across the Atlantic, we had a lot of Red Hot Chili Peppers on. They were the sound of going across the Atlantic and that was quite a momentous shift and change in my life."

GO TO NME.COM FOR
MORE SOUNDTRACKS

THE SONG THAT MAKES ME DANCE

CEELO GREEN

Bright Lights

Bigger City

"We love that song in our house and it just reminds me of all the kids and everyone dancing to it. I do terrible dad dancing. But going back, not that I go to clubs that much anymore, but certainly when I was in clubs, if 'O.P.P.' by Naughty By Nature comes on, that is my song! It's my favourite song of all time."

THE FIRST ALBUM I BOUGHT

THE BEATLES

1967-1970

"I bought it at Our Price, Notting Hill Gate – it's now an Itsu sushi bar, which sums up the changes. It was on cassette and I listened to it on my Sony Walkman. I absolutely loved The Beatles and I still do, especially their really trippy songs. I love that eclectic, weird, crazy Monty Python-esque stuff."

THE SONG I WANT PLAYED AT MY FUNERAL

NAUGHTY BY
NATURE

O.P.P.

"Ooh, gosh... I definitely want everyone to be happy. You know what, I'd probably have to go for 'O.P.P.', but we'll go for the clean version!"



THE FIRST GIG I WENT TO

LIVE AID
Wembley Stadium,

1985

"My aunt actually used to look after Elton John and she was one of the organisers of Live Aid. We all went as a family. I think it's difficult to explain to younger generations now just what a momentous shift that was in terms of the whole country coming together. It was amazing. I've still got my passes and my tickets at home somewhere."

Ben is supporting
#ActAgainstLungworm
to raise awareness of
the threat of lungworm
to dogs. For more info:
@DangerousSnail25
on Instagram



The wisdom
of the **NME**
archives

THIS WEEK
THOMAS
BANGALTER
Daft Punk
May 13, 2013

"We don't have
egos. We have
superpowers."



HUNTER & THE BEAR

DEBUT ALBUM, PAPER HEART
OUT 12TH MAY

"THE HEROES BRITISH ROCK NEEDS RIGHT NOW"
THE HUFFINGTON POST



UK TOUR MAY/JUNE '17



Harry Styles Debut Album

Out Now

FEATURING
Sign of the Times

