



IN CINEMAS NOW

BOOK TICKETS

Hello...

IT TOOK ME A LITTLE while to warm to Jeremy Corbyn, I could see that he and I had similar ideologies on many issues, but I felt that his voice might be better coming from the sidelines while a more moderate Labour leader provided the alternative to the austerity and cuts of the Conservatives. His silence throughout the Brexit campaigning annoyed me and his refusal to step down when his own party didn't want him to lead made me angry. Couldn't he see that he was the wrong man for Labour, and the wrong man for the UK?

Well, no, because he wasn't. Because he isn't. He's the right man. When you actually listen to what Jeremy Corbyn has to say, he's not talking hard left extremism, he's talking sense. When he calls for a better funded NHS and more support for teachers, and says he's scrapping tuition fees and zero hours contracts, he's promising us exactly what we want: a fairer and more inclusive country.

"Come mothers and fathers throughout the land / And don't criticise what you can't understand / Your sons and your daughters are beyond your command / Your old road is rapidly agin' / Please get out of the new one if you can't lend your hand / For the times they are a-changin'." Vote for change on June 8.

MIKE WILLIAMS

Editor-in-Chief @itsmikelike



NME

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TimeInc.



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AGENDA

WHAT EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT THIS WEEK

Happy birthday. Noel!

Noel celebrated his 50th birthday in style - and surrounded by celebs

TRUST NOEL GALLAGHER to throw one hell of a party. Last Saturday (May 27) the Oasis legend celebrated his milestone birthday in the company of Madonna, Bono and Damon Albarn in a swanky manor house

Noel kindly offering Bono a backie

in the English countryside.

The party was themed around drug cartel drama Narcos, so a mariachi band was in attendance. His brother Liam, however, was nowhere to be seen. He'd previously tweeted about not being invited to the bash, but over the weekend seemed to offer his big brother an olive branch, writing: "Happy 50th rkid stav voung LG x." Aww, they really do love each other after all...

Noel addresses his famous pals in front of specially commissioned artwork

Very into this new version

of the High Flying Birds

Damon Albarn and Bono saluting the big man

> It's Bono again! This time with Madonna and Stella McCartney

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From the moment a horrific terror attack struck Manchester Arena on Monday May 22, a spirit of defiance swept the city. Locals rushed to give blood, to the point where donations were no longer needed. Sikh temples opened their doors to offer free food and a place to sleep. Food and drink vendors delivered sandwiches and cups of tea for police officers on overnight duty. This city wouldn't bow down in the face of terror. Here's how the country stood by Manchester's side last week...

PEOPLE GATHERED FOR A VIGIL

Mancunians of all faiths joined arms in the city's Albert Square for a vigil on Tuesday May 23, to honour those who lost their lives at the Ariana Grande concert. "We shouldn't forget that Muslims were at that gig too. When Manchester's heart goes out, it goes out to every culture," one eyewitness said.

AN OASIS SONG TOOK ON A NEW POIGNANCY

A poignant moment took place after a minute's silence in the city centre on Thursday May 25. Shortly after the silence drew to a close, one member of the crowd began to sing Oasis classic 'Don't Look Back In Anger', before being joined by hundreds more.

FOOTBALL ENEMIES UNITED

Millions of pounds were raised in a British Red Cross appeal, with all donations going directly to the families of those affected by the attack. At the time of going to print, close to £2,000,000 has been donated. Football rivals Manchester United and Manchester City also donated £1 million to an emergency fund.

THE MUSIC CARRIED ON

Stars including Harry
Styles, The Courteeners,
Katy Perry and many
more paid tribute while
playing shows in the city
and elsewhere last week,
while Ariana Grande has
bravely announced a
return to Manchester on
Sunday (June 4) for a
defiant – and massive –
stadium benefit show at
Old Trafford, alongside
Coldplay and many more.

HOMELESS HERO STEPHEN JONES WAS REWARDED FOR HIS ACTIONS

STEPHEN JONES

After helping victims, homeless man Stephen Jones was offered a place to live by West Ham co-chairman David Sullivan. "I'm no hero," Jones told BBC Radio 5 Live. "I'm doing what anyone would've done."



225

Toronto choir members who sang 'Black Hole Sun' in tribute to Chris Cornell.



27

Times a scene in which Carrie Fisher slapped Oscar Isaac during *The Last Jedi* was reshot.



30,000

Square footage of the revived *Crystal Maze* set. Richard Ayoade is to host the cult show.



\$17.31

Amount received by an American man who sued his Bumble date for texting during a film.







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The London electro-geekpop band are surprise guests on Katy Perry's new album 'Witness'.



DWAYNE JOHNSON
Given odds of 25/1 to
become the next President,
'The Rock' launched a joke
bid on Saturday Night Live.



KATIE HOPKINS
Sacked from her LBC radio
show with immediate
effect. BYE THEN!



JUSTIN BIEBER
Forgot the Spanish lyrics to his own hit 'Despacito', replacing them with "blah blah". ¿Tu no entiendes?



Tom's the daddy HE HAS A SUPERHUMAN WORK ETHIC "The more I've been in

HE'S SUPER- PERSUASIVE

"When I read the script and saw all the stunts I'd have to do, I was like, 'No, I'm not dying on a building while making *The Mummy*.' And so Tom brought me out to London to say no to his face. And as we were discussing it, I heard my own voice in my head say, 'He's winning this argument, you idiot – you're gonna do the stunts."

HE'S INCREDIBLY GENEROUS

"So then what he did was open up his personal gym and trainers to me – and I trained with him all summer. There was never a workout I wasn't welcome at. And if I ever wanted access to the gym, even at weekends, that was cool too."

HE MAKES COMING TO WORK FUN

New Girl actor Jake Johnson stars opposite

Tom Cruise in The Mummy - and developed

says Cruise is a cut above other movie stars

a bit of a crush on him on set. Here's why Jake

"It's incredible. And you know he won't ask you to do something he's not willing to do himself. So I was like, 'Alright you maniac, let's jump off a building and have some fun today!' The truth of the matter is, if I got offered another movie with stunts and it wasn't with Tom, I would probably have no interest."

HE'S ALL ABOUT TOUGH LOVE

"I'd jump off a building, roll on the ground and say, 'I think I did it wrong because my shoulder really hurts.' And he'd say, 'No – you did it right because your shoulder really hurts." really successful people, the more I realise it's not luck. He works harder than other people and he cares more than other people. He wants the movie to succeed in ways that other movie stars that I've acted with just don't care about."

this business and the

more I've been around

AGENDA

The Mummy is in cinemas June 9





Bands and beer. What's not to like?

Meet the acts playing the NME x Estrella Galicia Lock In

NME HAS TEAMED UP with Estrella Galicia to host a live music lock-in in the basement of our London HQ on June 9 – and you could be there. The night will feature electric performances from hotly tipped blues-rockers Bang Bang Romeo and the garage-punk explosion of Pretty Vicious, while Estrella Galicia Lager will be served exclusively behind the bar.

FOR THE CHANCE TO WIN ONE OF 50 PAIRS OF TICKETS, HEAD TO NME.COM/WIN NOW

Estrella Galicia

BANG BANG ROMEO

The Sheffield four-piece are making waves with their searing and soulful take on blues-tinged rock. Lead vocalist Anastasia Walker is the ace in the pack – her powerful pipes will move you in a way you didn't think was possible.

Besttrack

'JOHANNESBURG'

Walker's vocal prowess takes flight on this grand number, which could easily feature on a film soundtrack.

STRNEETRIE

The band say they're influenced by "the universal sounds of the universe" and the films of Quentin Tarantino.

PRETTY VICIOUS

The unrelenting energy of the Merthyr Tydfil outfit has put them firmly on the map as ones to watch. Their gnarly riffs and riotous swagger creates a sound that packs more crunch than your favourite breakfast cereal.

Besttrack

'CAVE SONG

A spiky, shout-along slice of foot-stomping insurrection that serves as the perfect introduction to one of Wales's brightest new prospects.

STRNEETRIE

The band turned down a support slot with Muse in 2015 as they didn't feel they'd earned it – it would have only been their fifth gig ever.



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BIG OPINIONS. NO FILTER.

THIS WEEK

You have the power to change this country

THE GENERAL ELECTION IS so close vou can almost taste it. and, as it stands, it looks like June 8 might taste far sweeter than we first thought. Indeed, the lingering flavour of out-oftouch Tory - a rich mix of overdone steak and dusty old port - could possibly be banished from our mouths for the next four years, thanks to the huge surge in voter registration from young people: voung people who care about nurturing and funding the NHS, access to education for all, making sure big businesses pay proper taxes, scrapping zero-hours contracts, making a genuine commitment to looking after the environment and not being an elitist d**k.

cent of 18-24-year-olds voted, but this time around masses and masses of you have given enough of a toss about our future to rummage under your beds, find that scrap of paper with your National Insurance number on it and register to vote. People who thought their voices weren't listened to and people who thought the system was stacked against them have rallied together in a dazzling display of empowerment. Now the path this country takes could well be in their hands.

A record-breaking guarter of a million under-25s registered on the cut-off day last month, adding to a whopping 714,595 who'd already registered after the election was announced on April 18. As I write this, YouGov polls have revealed that the

Conservatives are just five points ahead of Labour who've been swiftly and surely closing the gap between the two parties over the past month. It's enough to make you want to burst into the chorus from 'Survivor' by Destiny's Child on the bus.

It's not just that Labour's policies will help out the UK's young people the most -Jeremy Corbyn's campaigning has been far more in touch with British youth than anything Theresa May has attempted. Rather than going on The One Show and talking about shoes, the Labour leader's been acting like a hype band, opening up for The Libertines and collaborating with grime artists. A secret showcase on the BBC Introducing Stage at Leeds

Festival and a PA at the Rampage sound system at Notting Hill Carnival seem sure bets for later this summer.

Until then there's only one thing to do - and that's vote. This Thursday, grab a pal and hit up your local polling station. But before you do, think about what kind of country you want to live in - a country run by people who don't give a s**t about you, your family, your health and your future, or a country run by people who do. @leoniemaycooper

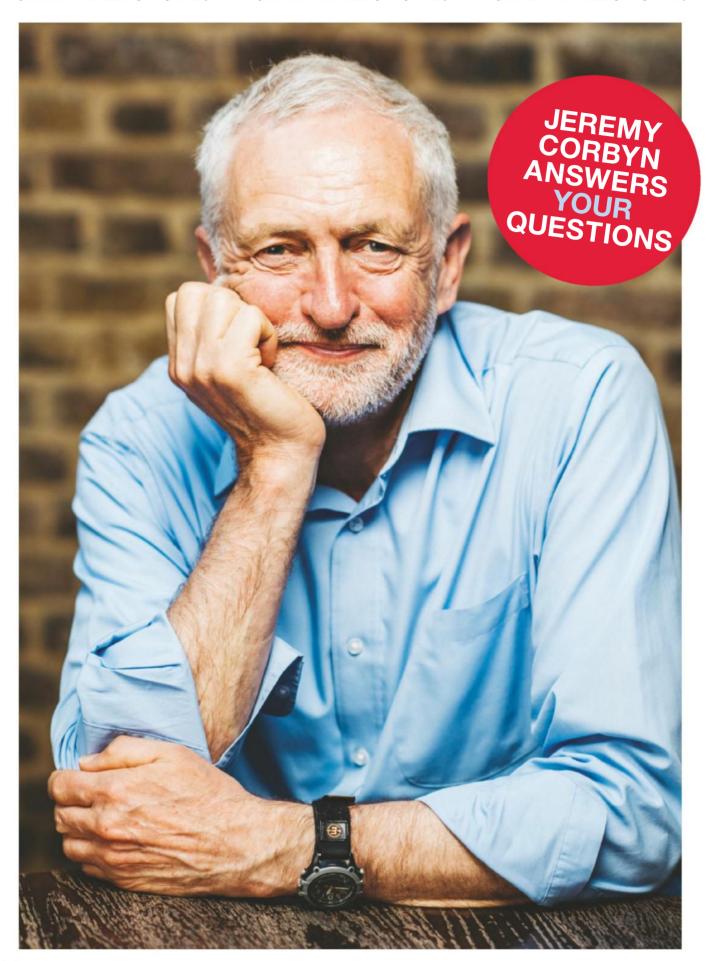
In 2015's election only 43 per "It makes you want to burst of 18-24-year-olds voted, at this time around masses and masses of you have given into 'Survivor' on the bus"











"WHAT HAPPENS IF WE DON'T WIN? I THINK WE WILL WIN..."

The right-wing press hate him, as do many of his own party, but Jeremy Corbyn has become an almost messianic figure of hope to his followers. With only days to go until the general election, NME Editor-in-Chief Mike Williams sits down with the Labour leader to ask him your questions, plus a few of his own, to find out whether his promises of a fairer society and more opportunities for young people are legit, and whether – whisper it – he could actually win

HEN THERESA
May called a snap
general election in
April, a landslide
victory was predicted for the
Conservatives. The Prime
Minister's main rival, Labour
leader Jeremy Corbyn, was seen
as not fit for purpose. Unpopular
within his own party, unelectable
in the eyes of the public, it
wasn't a case of whether
Labour would lose, but how
brutal the defeat would be.

Top of May's agenda was securing a mandate to deliver the hard Brexit that she's banged the drum for since becoming PM last July – this despite saying a month before the referendum: "I believe it is clearly in our national interest to remain a member of the European Union... Remaining inside the European Union makes us more secure, it makes us more prosperous." On a mantra of "strong and

stable", May and her advisors believed that the only thing the country was interested in was a steady hand and stiff upper lip at the EU negotiating table, something they claimed that she would guarantee.

Then came the manifestos. Labour's arrived first with a promise of more funding for the NHS, more funding for schools, an end to zero-hours contracts and the abolishment of university tuition fees. The Tories followed with promises to honour David Cameron's minimum wage and tax threshold pledges, scrapping free school lunches and replacing them with breakfast, creating more grammar schools and, most controversially, the so-called 'dementia tax' that would see pensioners asked to contribute more to the cost of their care with no cap on how much they might pay.

The reaction to the 'dementia

tax' was outrage. Within 48 hours, the Prime Minister had flip-flopped again, saying there would be a cap and that less fortunate people wouldn't be worse off. But the damage was done. The election wasn't about Brexit any more but the kind of country we want to live in, the kind of values we want to hold, the way we want to treat our old people and the future we want to create for our youth.

Which explains how the unassuming and decidedly un-politician-looking fella with a neat white beard, loose trousers and comfy shoes sat next to me in the quiet room of a restaurant in east London has captured the imagination of young Britain – and a good percentage of everyone else – to surge in the polls and turn a forgone conclusion into an exciting and unpredictable two-horse race. As he tells me later on, "I can't really think

when I've changed my mind on the basic principles of what I want in life, which is social justice, which is a more equal society, which is peace and human rights around the world. Does that mean I always win every decision or win every vote within my party? Obviously I haven't, but I do believe that if you stick to your fundamental beliefs and sav what they are. then you get a hearing. If you say, 'Well, I've got all these principles, but if you don't like them, I've got some more,' that's not very effective."

So can Jeremy Corbyn actually win? And if he does (or doesn't), what will it mean for young Britain? As the only leader to have made a point of putting young people at the heart of his policies and campaigning, we figured he'd be interested in what you had to say, so I took a few of your questions and put them to him...





JAIVIES

29, Newcastle

"Why do you think that it's the youth who are getting behind you so much in this general election?"

JEREMY CORBYN: "I think they're engaged because our manifesto offers them hope. It offers them hope that their schools will be properly funded, that their youth clubs will be properly funded, that they'll get maintenance grants, they'll get an opportunity to go to university without incurring massive debts at the end of it. But it's also about investing in our culture industries and our society for the future. I want

our children in schools to learn music as well as all the subjects they learn at the present time. I want them to have the opportunities for the future. That means we have to invest, that means we've got to share the wealth more fairly. That means we don't cut corporation tax, we don't give tax breaks to very rich. Instead we invest in the rest, and I'm really excited by the way in which young people have become engaged in this election and around two million have registered to vote who've never voted before and not been registered to vote before. The future belongs to the youth - let's go with it."

NME: Why do you think that the other mainstream parties, and specifically the Conservatives, don't seem to have focused on young people in the way you have?

JC: "I think they've relied on the fact that in the last election, less than half of young people who were registered turned out to vote, and that they will therefore

not register and not turn out to vote in this election. The whole story is actually very, very different: more than two million, mainly young people, have registered to vote since the election was announced. The registration period has now closed, and I hope that large numbers of young people are going to vote in this election. After all, it's about their future."



LOWRI (left)
Foundation Year 2
doctor, Liverpool

"Traditionally at this point in our careers we'd be progressing towards specialty, but come August neither Jen nor I will be doing so. I'm moving to
Australia to work as a
doctor and Jen's taking a
year out before committing
to specialty training. In a
cohort of 40-plus foundation
doctors that work at our
hospital, fewer than 10 of
them are progressing to
specialty training next year
and I think this is reflective
of what's happening right
across the UK right now."

JEN (right)

Foundation Year 2 doctor, Liverpool

"I think it's fair to say it's not been a great year for junior doctors on the front line of an increasingly stretched health service and this is almost certainly reflected in the morale of doctors, but also the whole of the NHS workforce. If Labour were to be elected, how would you address these issues?"

JC: "I'm very, very sad about this. When a young person goes to university to study medicine, it's a very long course. We treat them so badly, we pay them so badly, we put excessive demands and conditions upon them, their morale is low and they end up leaving the NHS altogether. What I'm determined to do is support the junior doctors. They're not the cause of the problem in the NHS; the cause of the problem is the lack of government funding for the NHS. So, we will put the money that's necessary in the NHS. and we will treat our doctors properly and not treat them as enemies. I joined the demonstrations of junior doctors. I got criticised by just about everybody for doing that, but do you know what? We learnt a lot by talking to them. I want doctors to stay in our NHS. Their calling is medicine; their calling is the community. Let's invest in them."

NME: What do you predict will happen to the NHS if we don't see change in this election? How close, actually, is it to collapse?

JC: "I think it's very close to collapse. The A&E departments are grotesquely overcrowded. Social care is in serious crisis. The debt and underfunding levels of every health authority are huge. If we don't put a lot more money into the NHS, then it will become not the first port of call for all of us [but] a health service of last resort. Those that can afford it will then buy private medicine, those that couldn't... We'd end up as a sort of American emergency room system. I'm utterly appalled by that very prospect. If you and I were sitting in the USA now and had a coffee with a group of people, we might say, "How's your health? You OK?" We would talk about our health, we'd talk about our wellbeing, we'd talk about our lives. I sat down with a group of friends in the States over Christmas. I was listening to their conversation. What do they talk about? The levels of health insurance they had, whether they were covered for this, covered for that, covered for the other, or whether their partner was, and so on. That's appalling. So if somebody suddenly realised, "Hang on, if I get cancer I'm not covered," is that the kind of world we want?"



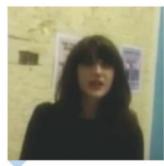
CALLEN 20. Enfield

"With the rise in stabbings that have taken place in the capital this year, how would a Labour government tackle the problem of knife crime?"

JC: "I live in and represent a community where we've had tragedy upon tragedy of stabbings and deaths and I've been to the funerals of the victims on a number of occasions, and they're unbelievably tragic. And, talking to those young people... Some have a misplaced sense of security that by carrying a knife they're somehow or other going to be safer; they're not. They're more likely to be killed by their own knife than they are protected by it. We've supported all the counter-knife measures such as knife arches in schools and colleges, such as searching shrubberies and flower beds and parks where people have been stashing knives in order to use them. But it's also a question of dealing with the cultural idea that somehow or other carrying a knife is cool and going to protect you. It's not."

NME: You've pledged to scrap tuition fees, which has gone down well. But it's also kicked up a question for people who already have that debt, or people who are currently in university. What does it mean for people who've already been paying £9,000 a year?

JC: "First of all, we want to get rid of student fees altogether. We'll do it as soon as we get in, and we'll then introduce legislation to ensure that any student going from the 2017-18 academic year will not pay fees. They will pay them, but we'll rebate them when we've got the legislation through - that's fundamentally the principle behind it. Yes, there is a block of those that currently have a massive debt, and I'm looking at ways that we could reduce that, ameliorate that, lengthen the period of paving it off, or some other means of reducing that debt burden. I don't have the simple answer for it at this stage - I don't think anybody would expect me to, because this election was called unexpectedly: we had two weeks to prepare all of this but I'm very well aware of that problem. And I don't see why those that had the historical misfortune to be at university during the £9,000 period should be burdened excessively compared to those that went before or those that come after. I will deal with it.'



FLEUR 27, Student at the Open University

"You've said you're going to be getting rid of student

tuition fees straight away, which is great, but I'd like to know what your plans are for mature students like me."

JC: "The Open University is the most incredible institution we have, one of the best in this country. I think it's absolutely fantastic and I want to properly fund the Open University as I want to make sure that other adult education colleges are properly funded. I've spent time in Ruskin [college specialising in opportunities for adults with few or no qualifications] and I know a number of others. And so, our manifesto includes a clear pledge that we will put funding into it and we'll also be supporting mature students in doing degrees online, doing degrees by evening classes, doing degrees while at work. We're going to establish a National Education Service. which will oversee the funding of all aspects of our education."



HARRY 14, Devon

"What's your favourite band or singer? What music do you enjoy listening to?"

JC: "I've got to 'fess up here: I'm not very musical but I love music. When I'm at home late in the evening I have Classic FM on or I have Radio 3 on or I put some music on of other sorts. I listen to a whole range of things. I do love much classical music; I've got a bit of a soft spot for Mahler, actually. I think this is going to get groans all round the room as I speak now, but I also like folk music, I like listening to some jazz, I like listening to world music as well. Because, essentially, music is very interesting history. Think of the history of popular music - where does it go to? It goes back to the USA, it goes back to Elvis, it goes back to the black music of the

"THE FUTURE BELONGS TO THE YOUTH – LET'S GO WITH IT"

neWmusic





alt-i



cigarettes after sex cigarettes after sex 09/06/2017





album of the month



love is love



london grammar truth is a beautiful thing 09/06/2017



phoenix ti amo 09/06/2017

saint etienne home counties



ulrika spacek modern english decoration out now





the charlatans different days out now



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southern states. Listen to the music of Latin America, you get Andean pipe music... Its origins go way back before the Spanish conquest of Latin America in the 15th century. And you see a history of social movements through music and I love all of that. So I love listening to iconic singers - Joan Armatrading, Joan Baez I really admire - and all the popular music that we have in this country. Do I have an all-time favourite song, tune, singer? Well. I do, and it's got to be John Lennon and 'Imagine'."

NME: As a music lover, can you help us answer the quintessential NME question that people have been asking for over 20 years? Who was the best: Blur or Oasis?

JC: "I'm going to plump for Oasis, but I know this will immediately divide the audience, so what I should have said was, 'I'll refer it to a focus group to decide,' but I'm not keen on focus groups..."



ROSIE

25, Manchester

"I'm a recently qualified teacher and I'm seeing a lot of recently qualified teachers already leaving the profession. How do you intend to address the recruitment and retention crisis within education?"

JC: "I've met the teaching unions and many teachers of course, and I spoke at the recent National Association of Head Teachers conference on this. A number of things need to happen. One is, students should be supported in getting teaching qualifications as well as supported in getting the degree that precedes the teaching qualification. Secondly, it's the burden that's placed on teachers in schools. Teachers



usually work a 12 to 14-hour day during term time - leave home very early, go into school, prepare for lessons, and all this. And they've got to pick up all the pieces of the problems in society. They've almost become social workers as well as everything else. Most teachers dip into their own wallets and handbags to ensure the children get something to eat if they're very hungry and very poor. So I want to thank all teachers for everything they do. And I want to say this to them: we will properly fund education so the schools won't have to collect from their parents.

"Teaching, at its best, is the most wonderful job in the world. You see young people developing, their attitudes developing, their culture developing, but if you're so weighed down by bureaucracy, weighed down by the lack of funding, weighed down by all those pressures, you lose the spirit to do your job properly."

NME: What happens if you don't win? You've got all this momentum, all these people

who believe in you – where does all this go if you don't win this election?

JC: "Well, I think we're going to win it. We have that huge opportunity to fundamentally change the way politics is done in Britain, and I'm very excited by it. I've spent all my life working on causes, representing my community and I'm very excited by this opportunity."

NME: As a final message to NME readers, why should they vote for change?

JC: "If we continue the way we're going, voung people are going to have more debt, less opportunity for housing. Some will do very well, but the majority will not get the wages, the opportunities or the society they deserve. Let's look at things a bit differently. We can afford lots of things in this country, but we cannot afford the levels of inequality that we've got, and that's why this document here, 'For The Many, Not The Few' [Labour's manifesto], is... it does what it

says. It actually says, 'Let's redistribute, let's invest in people for the future, and invest in the economy that grows for the future and bring people together.' Don't blame each other, bring people together. We can achieve things together and I'm very excited by it."

hat he says is compelling. It feels genuine and thought out. Theresa May attacked Corbyn's manifesto as being full of "fantastical promises" and being a "utopian vision". She wants to dampen expectations: he's telling us we should expect more. That we deserve more. Who you vote for on June 8 is entirely up to you. Differences of opinions are what make us interesting, and whether it's about Blur and Oasis, the credibility of Lady Gaga, the best new band on the planet right now, or political ideologies, NME readers have always disagreed and we'll continue to do so and all still be friends. But do think about this: we know what the UK looks like right now if we don't vote for change. Whether you think that's the country you want to live in or not will ultimately decide which box you put your cross in.

- To watch Mike's interview with Jeremy Corbyn in full, as well as your video questions being answered, head to NME.com
- Thanks to Beagle in Hoxton (beaglelondon. co.uk)

"MY FAVOURITE SONG? "IMAGINE' BY JOHN LENNON"



After eight solo Batman movies and six Superman films, it's finally time for DC's most iconic female superhero to show the cape-blokes how it's done. Mark Beaumont shines a light on Gal Gadot, the ass-kicking ex-soldier bringing Wonder Woman to the big screen



VEN AT FIVE YEARS old, Gal Gadot wouldn't be ignored. Her mother often tells the story of one family get-together that ran into the night, long after Gal had been put to bed. Hearing the party move to the rooftop terrace, she slipped out of bed and pottered up, only for no one to notice her. So she did what any normal future Hollywood superstar would do. She grabbed a hose and sprayed everyone with water, yelling, "It's meeee! Look at meeee!"

Gadot's been bursting out of the background ever since. In the Fast & Furious franchise she regularly upstaged and out-stunted the rest of the glowering beefcakes as ex-Mossad weapons expert and drug runner Gisele. And even when the foreground featured Bats and Supes battering seven shades of supers**t out of each other, Gadot was no shrinking violet in last year's Batman V Superman: Dawn Of Justice either. She was right there, front and centre. a sword-flinging, movie-stealing wonder of a Wonder Woman – her debut appearance in the iconic role.

So Gadot (pronounced 'gah-dote', but originally Greenstein in her native Israel) is the best hope yet to become the first female superhero with the power to smash her way through the cinematic glass ceiling. While The Avengers are giving the misfit supergang genre depths and dichotomies we'd never imagined and Deadpool and Logan are bringing ultraviolent wit and intense adult drama respectively to solo movies, female superheroes have remained largely underused and underdressed. Even when faced with such show-stealers as Margot Robbie's Harley Quinn in Suicide Squad or Scarlett Johansson's Black Widow, studios are reluctant to risk another Catwoman. Elektra or Tank Girl - dumper-bound movies all. But Gadot's steelv. immortal Amazonian warrior princess, fronting her own movie this week, looks set to become the first solo superfemale icon, and to hell with the queasy online debate about her body shape or whether she bleached her armpits. "You can't please them all," Gal says, "and for me, being an actress, my responsibility is not to pay too much attention to all the noise around me but to pay attention to the script, to the director, Zack [Snyder, Batman V Superman director] and protect the character and try to tell her story the best I can. I can only do my best."

If iconic comics publisher DC were after hardass glamour, they found the right woman. Voted Miss Israel at 18, Gadot broke off from an early career as one of Israel's highestearning models to spend two years doing military service in the Israel Defense Force, as all Israelis must. "You've got to give back to the state," she explained to *Glamour* in March. "You give two or three years, and it's not about you. You give your freedom away. You learn discipline and respect."

She also learned weapon skills and combat techniques that, while fairly useless during the quieter bits of her post-service law course, certainly prepared her for Hollywood. Eight thousand miles away, an LA casting director spotted her modelling card on her agency's wall and called her in to audition to be a Bond girl in Quantum Of Solace; Olga Kurylenko got that role, but Gadot did land the part in Fast & Furious, performing all her own stunts over three films and rising archly above the drooling bikini fodder scenes. Thriller roles followed in Ariel Vromen's Criminal and the star-smattered Triple 9 but it was one hush-hush screen test around the same time that would turn Gadot into a one-woman army and all-round superhuman feminist icon.

"They wouldn't say what [the role was]," she explains. "So of course I was intrigued and I did the audition and Zack was there and it was great. Two weeks later... Zack called me and he was saying, 'Well, I'm not sure if you have it in Israel, but did you ever hear about Wonder Woman?' I think I went dead for a few good seconds, came back to life, and then tried to pull off my best voice saying, 'Wonder Woman, yeah, of course.'"

The significance of the part isn't lost on Gadot. Wonder Woman getting her own movie doesn't just reflect the current wave of actresses demanding equality in pay and standing within the rigid Hollywood blockbuster system, she's also the original whip-cracking heroine – one we've been waiting to see kick the superhero genre in the moulded plastic codpiece for decades.

"It's a huge honour to be the one who got this amazing opportunity to tell such an important story," she says. "I have a four-year-old daughter and she adores princesses. At the same time, she would tell me, 'The princess, she's so weak; she falls asleep, the prince will come and save her and kiss her and he's the hero.' So I'm so happy to be the one that's going to tell the Wonder Woman story. It's such an

important story to tell and I'm grateful for it, but I also think that it's so important for girls and boys to have a strong female superhero to look up to. The more the merrier, and there's plenty of room for women to come. I'm very, very happy to be a part of that."

"For [Batman V Superman] it was important for me that we show how independent she is," she told Glamour. "She's not relying on a man and she's not there because of a love story. She's not there to serve someone else. She has so many strengths and powers, but at the end of the day she's a woman with a lot of emotional intelligence. She's loving - that's her strength. I think women are amazing for being able to show what they feel. I admire women who do. I think it's a mistake when women cover their emotions to look tough. I say let's own who we are and use it as a strength."

Gal even channelled music's very own Wonder Woman during the audition to land the part. "I decided to put on Beyoncé," she told W magazine in April. "'Who run the world? Girls!' I just started to dance, and I let my anxiety go. Thank you. Beyoncé!" So she didn't try to emulate the classic '70s TV series? "No, I was too young to watch the Lvnda Carter TV show - I was minus five. But after they cast me, I did watch a couple of episodes. I think that Lynda Carter was a magnificent Wonder Woman and certainly big shoes to fit into. When they cast me for this movie, Zack and everyone had a very clear vision on who Wonder Woman should be, what her story is and how they want to tell it. All I had to do was give my own notes and inputs and just embody everything and be her."

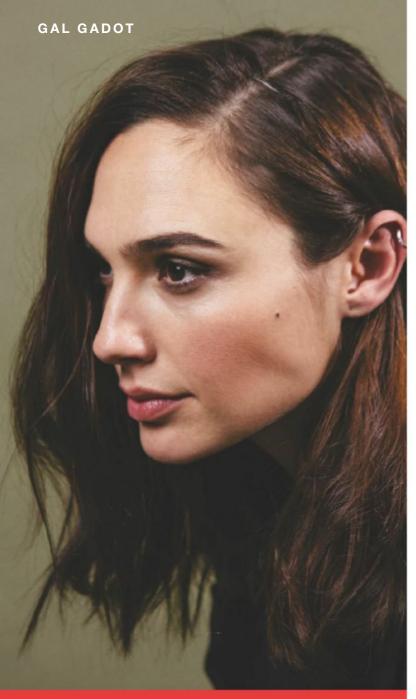
during World War I (the character's been around a while, having been made out of clay by Zeus like some kind of ancient, super-strength Wallace & Gromit), and finds our heroine teaming up with the Allied forces, who are presumably losing the war due to a chronic lack of god-forged magical wristbands. Directed by Patty Jenkins, who made the staggering *Monster* in 2003, it sets out to give Wonder Woman a rounded emotional resonance so long missing from most

onder Woman is set

"I'm lucky in that I've

superheroine roles.

"It's so important for girls and boys to have a strong female superhero to look up to"



Gal's on film Gadot's best roles so far



WONDER WOMAN
Batman V Superman:
Dawn Of Justice (2016)
While the DC universe's
two biggest egos were
doinking it out like prize
d**ks, Gadot was busy
concentrating on saving
the world from a massive
red-eyed Ninja Turtle
gone bad.



ELENA VLASLOV
Triple 9 (2016)
At the same time Gadot was fighting the good fight as Wonder Woman in Batman V Superman, she was also turning to the dark side as a Russian mafia moll in John Hillcoat's allaction crime thriller.



JILL POPE
Criminal (2016)
Gadot's most nuanced role to date was as the wife of a CIA agent who's died and had his memories implanted into Kevin Costner's head in this nowherenear-as-crap-as-it-sounds sci-fi thriller.

"She's not there because of a love story"

worked with men who have a lot of respect for women," she told Entertainment Weekly. "But working with a woman is a different experience. It feels like the communication is different... When Patty and I had our creative conversations about the character, we realised that Diana [Prince, Wonder Woman's secret identity] can still be a normal woman – one with very high values, but still a woman. She can be sensitive. She's smart and independent and emotional. She can be confused. She can lose her confidence. She can have confidence.

"I feel like Diana is really accessible. It's very easy to relate to her. She has the heart of a human so she can be emotional: she's curious, she's compassionate, she loves people. And then she has the powers of a goddess. I want to be her. And in Wonder Woman, she has this naivety in her. It isn't stupid, it's magical. I would want to be naive like that again... She's a young idealist who's been taught that the world is very simple: it's black or white, bad or good. It's how she was raised. There's something charming about the simplistic way in which she sees the world. But once she falls in love and starts her journey with Steve Trevor [Chris Pine], he educates her about the complexity of mankind. There's no such thing as only good and bad, black or white. It's complicated."

Having pumped copious iron to film Wonder Woman in the freezing cold London winter – and somehow found time to have her second child between shoots (in last November's reshoots they had to green-screen out her five-month baby bump) – Gadot is clearly something of a real-life Wonder Woman herself. But with predictions of a \$75 million opening weekend and Batman V Superman sequel Justice League due later this year, she's yet to fully grasp just how big a deal she's about to become – not just in the DC universe, but in the real one, too.

"It's happening and I'm kind of still in denial," she says. "I'm so busy working that I have absolutely no time to sit down and enjoy the ride. I'm enjoying everything, but I think it'll take me some time before I can really understand what's going on." Gal Gadot: the next superhero superstar or there's just no Justice.

Wonder Woman is in cinemas now







Zara Larsson

Age: 19 Known for: Her hit singles 'Lush Life', 'Never Forget You' and 'I Would Like', and generally being pop's woke new queen.

POWER: Formidable. After winning a Swedish TV talent show at the age of 10, Larsson used it as a springboard to pursue global fame, and she's already well on her way.

WONDER: She's already pulled off one minor miracle. 'Symphony', her Clean Bandit collaboration, recently knocked Ed Sheeran off the Number

One spot after 14 weeks.

WISDOM: She knows what she thinks and isn't afraid to say it. In a genius Instagram post, Larsson shamed boys who claim they're "too big" to wear condoms by sharing a picture of one stretched over her leg. **GRACE:** Some of her pop rivals don't bother with choreography, but

Larsson has proven her ability to execute a slick and sexy dance routine. Her idol is Bevoncé, so she's aiming high with her performances.

Millie Bobby **Brown**

Age: 13 Known for: Playing Eleven, the psychokinetic kid with a sick buzzcut in Stranger Things.

POWER: With 3.6m Instagram followers, she's one of the planet's most influential young teens. She's also landed a role in the 2019 blockbuster Godzilla: King Of The Monsters.

WONDER: Watch the video of MBB rapping Nicki Minaj's verse from 'Monster' without gasping.

WISDOM: She's wise beyond her years. "I knew what the industry was about, I knew it was competitive," she said last year. "So I think it's important just to stay humble and really not make it a competition. It's about the art and you're being a participant."

GRACE: Plenty. She's been signed up by IMG Models.





Olly Alexander

Age: 26 **Known for:** Fronting electropop crew Years & Years, plus acting roles in *Skins*, *Penny Dreadful* and *The Riot Club*.

POWER: He's blessed with natural eloquence and authority: when Alexander speaks out on LGBT and mental health issues, people sit up and listen.

WONDER: Years & Years' signature hits 'King' and 'Shine' rank among the best British pop singles of the last five years.

wispom: He know he's not perfect, but that's what makes him a great role model. Last year he said your struggles "can be your fuel – so long as they don't consume you, they can be the energy that propels you". He's also said he has a crush on Jeremy Corbyn. That was probably a joke, but as the General Election approaches it doesn't sound quite so ridiculous.

GRACE: Alexander dressed as an "undead Geri Halliwell" for a Years & Years Halloween gig – and got away with it.

Novelist

Age: 20 **Known for:** Being a founding member of Lewisham's The Square crew and one of grime's brightest rising stars.

POWER: Novelist has collaborated with Skepta and Jamie xx, and counts Drake as a mate. Last year he even set up his own label, Mmmyeh Records. WONDER: He's brave and not afraid to throw a curveball. Although fans love his inventive lyrics, this didn't stop Novelist from dropping an EP featuring five instrumental tracks. "You aren't ready to hear my voice," he tweeted when it came out in April. WISDOM: Novelist has a strong business head on his young

business head on his young shoulders. Explaining why he founded a label for himself and his pals, he told *NME* last year: "I felt like, if we're going to govern our music and make the most out of ourselves, we should own everything that we're doing and own everything that we can possible. [And] I feel like I'm in the position to do that."

GRACE: Although he's longer working with Adele's label XL, Novelist never bad-mouths them. "The relationship was cool," he told *NME*. "When I spent time around different crowds, different labels, it was good. It allowed me to see how things work."



Tom Holland

Age: 20 Known for: Being Spider-Man. The Kingston-born actor debuted as Peter Parker in Captain America: Civil War last year. His first solo outing, Spider-Man: Homecoming, follows this July.

POWER: He won the Rising Star Award at this year's BAFTAs and has 1.7m Instagram followers.

WONDER: The way he tore into Rihanna's 'Umbrella' on Lip Sync Battle in latex hotpants.

WISDOM: He recently wrote on Instagram, "I get asked, 'What's it like being a superhero?' And honestly I'm the wrong person to ask. You should be asking the volunteers who work in hospitals – they're the real-life heroes."

GRACE: The gymnastics videos he posts on Instagram

prove that this guy is agile.



Awkwafina

Age: 28 **Known for:** Being a rapper, comedian, actress and writer who can't be pigeonholed.

POWER: Next year she'll appear in the Hollywood films Ocean's Eight and Crazy Rich Asians. WONDER: One of her rap bangers, 'Mayor Bloomberg (Giant Margaritas)', warns New York City's mayor not to ban her favourite iced tipple. WISDOM: "I want to change the game to make rap that shows I'm not a normal female rapper,' she's said. 'It's not about how rich I am. how much sex I have, or how many boyfriends I have." GRACE: Her risqué rhymes and comic timing are totally on point.

Charli XCX Age: 24 Known for: Co-writing Icona Pop's dance banger 'I Love It', singing on Iggy Azalea's rap banger 'Fancy', and scoring a huge hit with her own pop banger 'Boom Clap'. POWER: When it comes to tunes, she has the midas touch: she's also written tracks for Blondie, Selena Gomez and Diplo. WONDER: She's so prolific her label can barely keep up. In March, she dropped a mixtape called 'Number 1 Angel' that was better than most pop stars' actual albums. WISDOM: She released her first single nine years ago, when she was 15, so it's safe to assume she knows all about the music business. She began her last album with a track about a creepy industry douchebag. Its chorus goes: "Well, f**k you, sucker!" GRACE: She's been known to rock out on stage with a giant inflatable guitar, so her swagger definitely NME can't be faulted.

Wonder Woman is in cinemas now











THIS WEEK'S ESSENTIAL NEW RELEASES

BEST FOR WEIRD

ALASKALASKA Bitter Winter

This South London sixsome make swirling art-jazz that brings to mind Dirty Projectors. Decent.

BEST FOR BEING A SUPERHERO

SIA

To Be Human

Taken from the Wonder Woman soundtrack, this epic belter is perfect for caped crusading.

BEST FOR OPENING YOUR EYES

MONDO COZMO

Automatic

US maverick Mondo Cozmo fuses reggae. electro, psych and a 3am near-religious experience to create some majestic dancefloor sounds.

BEST FOR BBQS

KALI UCHIS

Tvrant

Embrace the sunshine with this sunny slice of sultry R&B with a guest spot from rising Midlands singer Jorja Smith.

BEST FOR GETTING **GROOVY**

DAN AUERBACH Waiting On A Song

The Black Keys frontman channels The Beach Boys on this sublime, Boys on this s ultra-classic-s rock 'n' roller. ultra-classic-sounding

You'd better be.

BEST FOR GOING NEXT LEVEL And when to drop them BEST FOR GOING NEXT LEVEL ENTER SHIKARI Supercharge Big Narstie is on board for this excellently age.



Big Narstie is on board for this excellently aggro electronic dose of rap-rock fusion with a 2017 grime twist.

BEST FOR BEING STRONG

LITTLE MIX

Power

Stormzy steps in for a guest feature on this high-octane ode to female empowerment.



BEST FOR HAVING A WEEP

MARIKA HACKMAN

Cigarette

Lush finger-picked anti-folk from the marvellous Hackman, whose 'I'm Not Your Man' album is out now.

BEST FOR SMASHING THE SYSTEM DOWNTOWN BOYS

A Wall

Rhode Island's foremost political punks kick out the jams on this sax-laced, angry dose of activism.

FOR MORE NEW MUSIC, GO TO NME.COM



Shapeshifters

Inventive trio Alt-J's third album is a weird pop juggernaut with a sinister side

Relaxer
Threform

TRIANGLES GEEKS STRINGS

ALT-J'S 'RELAXER' IS NOT exactly an indie record by numbers. This is the group's first album since 2014's 'This Is All Yours' and it's half a decade since the band were inescapable with their Mercury Prize-winning debut 'An Awesome Wave'. Throughout this time, the Leedsformed trio have only gotten

weirder – they never hint at going by the book.

With 'Relaxer', they remain devotedly nerdy. The teaser for opening track '3WW' was written in binary code and they launched a website inspired by a cult '90s PlayStation game. But there's so much more going on than insular geekdom. Take lead single 'In Cold Blood' as an example – there are horns and threatening guitar lines undercut with punitively reassuring but actually quite threatening "la la la" chants. 'House Of The Rising Sun' is not so much a cover as a glorious turning inside out of the original, coupled with personal lyrics about a broken family. It's one of six tracks that features a 30-piece string section, an

'Relaxer' flits between two sides. Sweet romanticism – the lyric "I just want to love you in my own language", the decision to have the group's girlfriends sampled – is juxtaposed with the unsettling cover art of what appears to be a bloodied murder victim. This shouldn't be all that surprising from a band that once made a video about killing one's partner in the bath.

expansive leap from early

Alt-J's signature hushed style.

Still, the playful, inventive

STRICETRE

The video for 'In Cold Blood' is narrated by none other than Iggy Pop and stars a woodmouse who stumbles upon a gangland shootout.

musicality that saw songs like 'Fitzpleasure' become live favourites is intact. 'Hit Me Like That Snare' is that moment, with its punk-cut drumming, layers of distortion and vocal origami folds from frontman Joe Newman. There's more traditional journeyman storytelling here too, particularly on the gentlest song, 'Last Year', in keeping with the group's literary influences.

By the time you get to the cinematic, religion-nodding album closer 'Pleader', you've had the pleasure – if an often uneasy one – of listening to a tight 40 minutes of music that builds a very modern wall of sound. Great album, if not entirely relaxing.

Hannah Jane Parkinson



Tongue and groove DUA LIPA

The next pop superstar? Dua Lipa's debut does everything to prove it

IT TAKES A genuine miracle for a new act to nudge Drake and Ed Sheeran out of their UK

singles chart monopoly, but Kosovo-born, London-based star Dua Lipa has managed it three times. Her singles 'Be The One' and 'Hotter Than Hell' made the Top 15; the same went for Martin Garrix collaboration 'Scared To Be Lonely'. All this before an actual full-length album.

The eventual debut doesn't so much hint at Dua Lipa becoming a superstar as scream it from the rooftops. This is a sass-packed, honest, uncompromising storm. And before the Chris Martin-penned closing track 'Homesick', there isn't a standard ballad within sight. No dull moments, not a whiff of boring, just bangers.

Those chart-bothering early singles pave the way for a record that won't rest until it's compressed every available hook into gigantic pop songs. So as well as the

STRNEETPUE

Growing up, Dua Lipa thought she was too short compared to her peers. For some reason, she believed playing basketball would inspire a growth spurt.

Besttrack

'BE THE ONE'

Lipa's breakthrough single remains a triumph, tropically fused and full of wow factor.



dancehall-nodding
'Hotter Than
Hell', there's the
steamed-up Miguel
collaboration 'Lost In
Your Light' and the
post-breakup punch

of 'IDGAF'. Even when the 21-year-old threatens to slow down, she'll throw in the odd twist. 'Thinking 'Bout You' starts as an acoustic slow burner, but soon reveals itself to be a sharp-witted firecracker. 'No Goodbyes' begins slowly but eventually becomes an Ibiza-ready heatwave.

Much of the album's magic boils down to one element: Lipa's voice. It could make the thickest synths seem tame in comparison and carries a 20-a-day raspiness capable of making heartfelt ballads sound edgy. Those vocals are the magic ingredient, saving potentially limp tracks from extinction. But it's equally impressive to hear how confidently the debut holds itself together, flitting between styles but always shining a spotlight on a legitimate pop

sensation. She's the real deal.

Jamie Milton





What a wonderful world IF THE DC EXTENSION Universe has so falacking when community to the community of the

It's taken a while, but the first *ever* superhero film with both a female protagonist and director

is an absolute delight

WONDER WOMAN

12A Gal Gadot, Chris Pine, Robin Wright



IF THE DC EXTENDED universe has so far been left lacking when compared to rival Marvel's arsenal of Avengers, Iron Man, Captain America et al, Wonder Woman is the one that should finally give them bragging rights over Marvel, with a hero flick that lives up to its name.

Forget Catwoman's kitsch or Gamora's green-skinned goofiness in *Guardians Of The Galaxy*, Gal Gadot's Wonder Woman stands, defiantly, alone. Before she becomes wondrous, we meet the young Diana Prince – daughter of Queen Hippolyta and a Princess of the Amazons – in warrior

training with her aunt, General Antiope (Robin Wright), on the mythical island of Themyscira. Diana's convinced her destiny is to defeat Ares, the god of war. So when Chris Pine's American spy pilot Steve Trevor crash lands on her sheltered paradise, with German troops in pursuit, two worlds collide.

"Lused to want to save the world. A beautiful place... But I knew so little then. It's full of darkness inside," she says, as she awakens to reality. They're ominous words from a heroine devoid of Batman's angst, as we journey back 100 years to the Great War via a mythical realm. Her mission might be another variation on that trusty 'save the world' theme but. with shades of the first Captain America, the genuine sense of ieopardy triggered by a real-life war setting puts gender to one side as Earth's saviour battles the evil that men do. questing to end their corruption at the hands of Ares.

Director Patty Jenkins - the filmmaker behind the Oscar-winning Monster delivers a melee of awesome action sequences. In one of the film's standout scenes, Diana and her crew (including Trainspotting's Spud, Ewen Bremner, as a war-beaten sniper) are pinned back by enemy fire in a trench on the Western Front. A bullet-dodaina. balletic display of asskicking ensues. It's a real iaw-dropper and Gadot absolutely nails it.

The inevitable face-off with Ares reveals a neat twist – prepare for a finale fused with emotional heft. If you've been suffering from superhero fatigue, Wonder Woman will restore your faith in the genre with DC's best effort since The Dark Knight, in turn ramping up expectations for the forthcoming Justice League.

Dan Brightmore







YOU HEARD IT HERE FIRST

The Amazons lately. Does that irritate you? Matt: "I don't care. We're not trying to get a bunch of old men

Snarling, back-to-basics rock with huge choruses

FEW BRITISH BANDS ARE better primed for a breakout 2017 like The Amazons. With their self-titled debut out now and a gigantic summer of festivals lined up, Matt Thomson (lead vocals, guitar) and Joe Emmett (drums) explain why now is their time.

You were big into dance music before you started

The Amazons. Is that massive rock sound a response to those days?

Matt: "It was just to get away from that and do the complete opposite of what I'd been listening to for 18 months. I got really disillusioned with it and seeing Foals play Alexandra Palace in 2014 reignited a little flame for me. If a proper rock show like that doesn't get

people going, then what will?" **Joe:** "I think that's where this primal urge came from. To just play loud and whack everything really f**king hard."

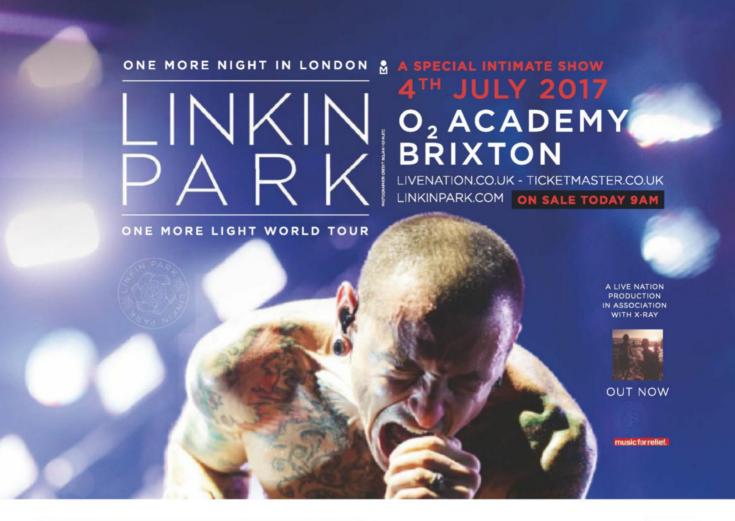
A lot of older artists have been bemoaning the lack of new British 'guitar' bands lately. Does that irritate you? Matt: "I don't care. We're not trying to get a bunch of old men on our side. It's more about if it connects with fans. I don't think they get to decide whether rock 'n' roll's dead. What about all the kids who are having it at the front of our shows? Don't they get to decide whether rock 'n' roll is still a thing? No one has a monopoly, or any authority to say what guitar music is or whether it's dead."

Does that put more pressure on new acts like you? Matt: "I don't think so at all. Because being in a rock 'n' roll band at the moment, you're an underdog generally. You're not necessarily commanding huge record sales or anything like that, so there's always a bit of fight that goes along with it."

You've been touring basically non-stop for three years. How are you adjusting to life on the road?

Joe: "When we started touring we were quite sensible young men. But it's been insane and we're all still friends, which is a good sign. Last year it worked out that we travelled the circumference of the Earth in our s**tty little van, doing shows everywhere. We decided to burn the van for the album cover, so it was kind of symbolic. All that hard work through live shows will stay with us on the album. Plus we got to ask for a new van." Thomas Smith





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IT'S BEEN ALMOST A YEAR since Grace Jones's last UK appearance - she headlined London's Afropunk Festival last September - and in the meantime her regally odd performance on Gorillaz track 'Charger' stole the thunder from the band's other collaborators.

It's in entirely different

surroundings that the '80s funk-pop icon returns to a UK stage in 2017; she's topping the bill of Hertfordshire's rural wonderland Standon Calling, where '90s exercise dude Mr Motivator is this year rubbing shoulders with east London drag outfit Sink The Pink.

The musical line-up is

similarly eclectic - it features headline slots from electronic duo Orbital and chart perennials Clean Bandit, and there's plenty more where that came from further down the bill, from hyper-pop gurus Kero Kero Bonito to brutal punks Idles and fêted Croydon rapper Nadia Rose.

Standon, Hertfordshire

JULY 27-30

LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: Grace Jones, Orbital, Slaves, Nadia Rose, Fickle Friends, Kero Kero Bonito, Kate Tempest, Akala TICKETS: £147







AKALA

Fri 2 Festival Site. Hay-on-Wye

ALGIERS

Tue 6 Patterns, Brighton Wed 7 The Shacklewell Arms, London

AMBER MARK

Tue 6 The Waiting Room. London

BILL RYDER-JONES

Tue 6 Crescent WMC, York Wed 7 Bar Abbey, Sheffield

BONDAX

Sat 3 Patterns, Brighton

CARL BARÂT & THE JACKALS

Fri 2 The Rescue Rooms, Nottingham

CASSIA

Tue 6 Broadcast, Glasgow Wed 7 Bar 15. Dundee Thu 8 Sneaky Pete's, Edinburgh

CLAY

Thu 8 The Garage. London

DEPECHE MODE

Sat 3 Stadium, London

EIVØR

Fri 2 The Islington. London Sat 3 Castle Hotel, Manchester Sun 4 Òran Mór

FLYTE

Fri 2 The Magnet, Liverpool

HEY VIOLET

Wed 7 The Borderline, London

JESS GLYNNE

Sat 3 Parc Y Scarlets, Llanelli

JOE GODDARD

Wed 7 Sneaky Pete's, Edinburgh

JULIEN BAKER

Mon 5 Bush Hall, London Tue 6 The Deaf Institute. Manchester

KOJO FUNDS

Wed 7 Gorilla, Manchester

MITSKI

Wed 7 Empire Music Hall. Belfast

NICOLAS JAAR

Fri 2 The Invisible Wind Factory, Liverpool

NITE JEWEL

Sun 4 Camden Assembly, London

NOTS

Mon 5 Brudenell Social Club, Leeds

ONRA

Fri 2 Camden Assembly, London Sat 3 Broadcast. Glasgow

PERFUME GENIUS

Thu 8 Heaven, London

PIXX

Fri 2 Arts Centre. Norwich Sat 3 Broadcast, Glasgow Mon 5 Brudenell Social Club, Leeds Wed 7 The Courtvard Theatre, London

ROBBIE WILLIAMS

Fri 2 & Sat 3 Etihad Stadium, Manchester Tue 6 St Mary's Stadium, Southampton

SHAWN MENDES

Fri 2 The O2. London

SNAKEHIPS

Fri 2 O2 Forum Kentish Town, London

THE STAVES

Tue 6 The Art School. Glasgow Wed 7 Barrow Library, Barrow-in-Furness

THE STRYPES

Fri 2 Trades Club. Hebden Bridge Tue 6 The Bullingdon, Oxford Wed 7 O2 Academy.

TALL JUAN

Leicester

Wed 7 The Lock Tavern, London

TANGERINES

Fri 2 The Rocking Chair, Sheffield Sat 3 Stereo, Glasgow Mon 5 Think Tank?. Newcastle Tue 6 Brudenell Social Club. Leeds Wed 7 The Green Door

Store, Brighton **TENNIS**

Fri 2 & Sat 3 Omeara, London

THEA GILMORE

Sun 4 RNCM. Manchester Mon 5 The Stables. Milton Keynes Tue 6 MAC, Birmingham Wed 7 Junction. Cambridge

Fri 2 Southbank, Bristol

Sat 3 Headrow House. Leeds

Mon 5 The Joker. Brighton Tue 6 The Dome, London

TYCHO

Tue 6 SWG3, Glasgow Wed 7 Albert Hall. Manchester Thu 8 Trinity, Bristol

VUKOVI

Fri 2 Epic Studios. Norwich Mon 5 The Boileroom. Guildford

WEIRDS

Tue 6 The Cookie. Leicester Wed 7 Brudenell Social Club. Leeds Thu 8 Broadcast. Glasgow

WHITNEY

Sun 4 O2 Ritz. Manchester

WILLIAM **TYLER**

Sun 4 Omeara, London

YOUNG FATHERS

Fri 2 City Hall, Hull

ZARA LARSSON

Wed 7 O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire, London



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Ewen Bremner

Actor and star of Wonder Woman

THE FIRST SONG I REMEMBER **HEARING**

PAUL SIMON Late In The Evening

"I became conscious of music through that song. I listened to it a lot. My dad got himself a nice hi-fi that I wasn't allowed to touch, but he picked me up an old radiogram from a skip, so I had a turntable in my bedroom."

THE FIRST SONG I FELL IN LOVE WITH IAN DURY AND THE

BLOCKHEADS Hit Me With Your Rhythm Stick

"It's got fantastic energy, and attitude and poetry - it's really an exciting piece of music. It set a template for me. In the late 1970s there was a whole new music scene going on in Britain with the 2 Tone scene and Madness and The Specials. That steered me into the world of British beat music that was based on Jamaican dancehall music and reggae and ska."



THE FIRST GIG I WENT TO

TOM WAITS

Edinburgh Playhouse "I was 16 and it

absolutely blew my mind. It was a fantastic concert - very visual and very theatrical. It wasn't like going to a traditional gig; he created this world that was like a living room or an LA motel lounge bar. It was like entering another world."

THE SONG THAT MAKES **ME DANCE**

DON THOMAS Come On Train

"I'm an old soul head. and this is just a great tune. Bobby Byrd's 'I Need Help' also does it for me. They're both powerful movers. You iust can't listen to them and not move."

THE SONG I DO AT KARAOKE

PRINCE

Purple Rain "The last song I did was 'Purple Rain'. I was in Tokyo and he'd just passed away, so I felt compelled to murder 'Purple Rain'."



BUM I BOUGHT **PINK FLOYD**

The Wall

"It was all about questioning authority - it was quite rebellious and subversive, and had fantastic songs about growing up and being at the mercy of an institution. It really resonated with me, feeling like a little minion in that big scary world of school."

THE SONG **I WANT** PLAYED AT MY FUNERAL

JIMMY CLIFF

Many Rivers To Cross "It's got the church organ and it's contemplative and it's about life going on and having something to reach for. I think for a funeral it's not bad."

THE SONG THAT REMINDS ME OF HOME

PAUL SIMON That's Why God Made The Movies

"It's one of the songs I used to listen to a lot as a kid. It's about making sense of your life and your existence. I am, for my sins, an existentialist. It's about coming to terms with the wounds of life, and how film and music can be a medicine for your wounds."

Wonder Woman is in cinemas now



The wisdom of the NME archives

> **THIS WEEK** PRINCE

Icon June 6, 1981

"Prodigy? I don't even know what the word means. I'm just a person."

