

out this week

albums of the week

menomena : friend and foe (upfront release) the absolutely incredible 3rd album from the us alternative band from portland, oregon. this is a seriously impressive collection of shining indie songcraft filtered through a chicago post-rock lens, taking the quiet/loud unpredictability to a whole new experimental level. the unlikely combination of the loopy electronics, soulful multi-layered vocals (all band members share vocal duties), grandiose dramatics & the tribal / spiritual atmosphere makes for a varied, exciting & wholly satisfying listening experience that only deepens with every listen. for fans of tv on the radio, flaming lips, clap your hands say yeah!, the strange death of liberal england & elbow. trust us, you need this record! "has all the hallmarks of an underground classic that's here to stay" 8/10 – nme. [city slang](#)

vic chesnutt : north star deserter this unbelievable record features all 7 members of thee silver mt. zion memorial orchestra & tra-la-la band, along with guy picciotto (fugazi), bruce cawdron (godspeed you! black emperor) & members of hanged up amongst others. they have all offered influences & approaches to vic's music that have yielded a record unlike any other in his substantial discography. these songs are some of the most bracing & intense we've ever heard from him : macabre & fearless, playful & funny, at times deeply personal & at others, incongruously hopeful. the wonderful arrangements & vocals will undoubtedly appeal to fans of silver mt. zion as well as lambchop & micah p hinson. a really exciting, must have record. [constellation](#)

rock / indie / americana

st. vincent : marry me annie clark cut her musical teeth with the polyphonic spree & now she makes cinematic pop epics. this album is a smartly crafted deluge of guitar, bass, & beats pulsing forward with warmth & immediacy alongside annie's classy soprano. her lyrics can be weird or tongue-in-cheek or dead serious. horns & strings cry out brassy & full-bodied over digital keyboards, songs rock out vigorously, break down into squiggling post-noise-rock deconstructions & backing harmonies & kiddie choirs loom in the distance. a real grower - you'll always find something new whenever you come back to it. [beggars banquet](#)

wooden wand : james & the quiet new album from james toth - released on thurston moore's ecstatic peace label & featuring contributions & production from sonic youth's lee ranaldo & steve shelley. the road-weary songwriter wanted to transcend the 'psychedelic' connotations he'd been pegged with since his days fronting the vanishing voice & this is a pretty comprehensive departure from his obscure beginnings. lyrically, toth's writing continues in the vein of the quasi-religious weirdness that characterised second attention, but rather than sounding like an emission from some drugged-up hippy sect, this stuff has more in common with smarter, more outlandish, dylan-esque lyrical outpourings. highly recommended. [ecstatic peace](#)

black francis : bluefinger the pixies' iconic lead singer frank black dons his decades-old moniker & imbued by the spirit of eccentric dutch painter/musician herman brood, records a brand new set of 11 songs. directly or indirectly, all 11 songs reference brood, known as the "dutch personification of 'sex, drugs & rock 'n' roll.'" the album showcases a herman brood cover - "you can't break a heart & have it," & 10 black francis originals including "threshold apprehension," a bonus track on his "93-03" "best of". appearing on guitars, harmonica & vocals, francis was joined in the studio by drummer jason carter (guards of metropolis), violet clarke on vocals & bassist dan schmid (the visible men). [cooking vinyl](#)

heavy trash : going way out with heavy trash new album from jon spencer & matt verta-ray - their greatest salvo of passion & grind yet, a torrent of cut-throat twang, a nitro-burning joy ride that drives hot-rod guitars & battered tube amps to their earthly extremes! heavy trash razzles with the sun sound, echoing slap-back sludge & gurgling the dark hoodoo groove. yes, heavy trash twangs & shivers in the cold moonlight. heavy trash rhythms & blues, heavy trash punches & weaves... there are songs for listening & songs for dancing, sad songs, happy songs & songs that will make you burn with fever. you'd be a fool to resist! "oodles of unashamed, unabashed fun" – mojo. [yep roc](#)

eighties matchbox b-line disaster : in the garden (2cd) their first new material for 2 years & is their first release since the departure of guitarist andy huxley (now in vile imbeciles). the band's fevered skronk props up guy mcknight's suavely mocking croons & freakish jabber & they are still as vital as ever. occupying a space somewhere between bauhaus & faith no more, the b-liners have lost none of their customary bite. includes a bonus disc of 10 live tracks including many rare & unreleased recordings / tracks. special packaging includes an eighties matchbox fold out ouija board. [degenerate](#)

hard-fi : once upon a time in the west a 12-track tour-de-force of genre-hopping beats, stomping motown undercurrents, indie purr & rapid-fire delivery. written & produced by frontman richard archer, the eagerly awaited 2nd album was recorded in the same converted taxi-office in staines as 'stars of cctv' & brims with their inimitable energy. they've remained raw & relevant with personal anthems set against a backdrop of sonic triumphs. "more rage against the (cash) machine, with tearing jerking interludes" 4/5 – mojo, "a 40 minute joyride through urban britain delivered with unflinching intensity" 4/5 – uncut. [necessary](#)

animal collective : strawberry jam vinyl release of the stunning new album, a week ahead of the cd release. watch this space next week for full album details..... [domino](#)

athlete : beyond the neighbourhood (standard or limited cd/dvd book version. free poster with each album, while they last) deptford's finest return with their eagerly anticipated 3rd album. produced & recorded by the band themselves at their own studio in south east london, beyond the neighbourhood is a record of true progression & real quality. its songs are built around the same effortless hooks & snagging melodies that have been athlete's trademark since their debut single, 'westside', but the album glows with a newfound musical confidence, showing big leaps in terms of ambition, scope & creativity. [parlophone](#)

skallander : iii a seismic collaboration between bevan smith (better known to many as carpark records' signer, or one half of 'over the atlantic') & multi-instrumentalist & renowned jazz guitarist matthew mitchell. utilising mitchell's virtuoso instrumental skills & haunting vocals & pitting them against smith's veteran mixing desk trickery, the result is an album which sounds both incredibly new & yet retains the classic structure of your favourite 70s lps. with nods to early pink floyd, neil young & more recently jose gonzalez & kings of convenience, this is a deep & beautifully hazy record. [type records](#)

pink floyd : the piper at the gates of dawn (2cd or 3cd version) the 40th anniversary of their 1967 debut, now reissued as a collectors special edition that brings together the original mono album, the current stereo mix & a 3rd disc of special extras that includes the 1967 singles collection with b sides, plus completely unreleased versions of 3 album tracks. the 3cd set is packaged in a cloth-bound book, that includes an expanded 12 page booklet & a reproduction of a previously unseen syd barrett notebook from 1967 with personal artwork & lyrics. "*apart from sgt pepper, no album from 1967 carries as much historical resonance as pink floyd's debut*" 4/5 - [mojo](#), "*syd's finest 40 minutes*" 5/5 - [uncut](#). [emi](#)

magic numbers : undecided ep a 6 track ep featuring alternate versions of 2 tracks from the recent album 'those the brokes' (an edit of 'undecided' & a re-recording of 'let somebody in') & 4 previously unreleased, brand new songs / recordings. "*at last summer is here*" - [nme](#), "*truly lovely*" - [guardian](#). [heavenly](#)

plain white t's : every second counts for almost a decade, the chicago born band have been playing to packed audiences craving that perfect pop-punk punch. with their first major label album, the band is ready to rock in a big way. "*americas hottest property!*" - [kerrang](#), "*a fabulous record which connects with all kinds of people*" - [jo whiley](#), "*love it*" - [scott mills](#). [hollywood](#)

battle : break the banks their full-length debut collates the classic debut 'demons' with the recent singles 'the longest time' & 'paper street'. the album also highlights the fan favourite 'sit with me', the emotional melodicism of 'negotiation' & the sublime mini-epic 'north sea'. "*the music we make isn't fashionistary & it's not driven by a need to be in vogue,*" declares charismatic frontman jason bavanandan. "*it's driven by soul music & a need to get off your chests whatever you're thinking about that time. our impetus to make music is a burning desire to have a warm organic sound that can move around different styles*". [transgressive](#)

joseph arthur : nuclear daydream arthur's 5th full-length album is a lushly composed collection of 12 original & epic songs of romance & despair. arthur unclutters his sound & relies more on arrangements & simple acoustic guitar. the results are a leaner sound, one that has more space & fewer layers but by no means sparse. his distinctive voice & shimmering guitar dominate this recording. [14th floor](#)

joseph arthur & the lonely astronauts : let's just be written immediately after arthur's last tour with his new band the lonely astronauts - kraig jarret johnson (golden smog, the jayhawks), jennifer turner (natalie merchant), greg wieczorek (twilight singers) & sibyl buck (champion of sound). filled with ideas, the band found themselves entrenched in a los angeles studio for 3 weeks, where it is rumoured that such was the level of inspired creativity during the sessions that well over 80 tracks were recorded. [14th floor](#)

i was a king : losing something good for something better (debut-mini album) a wonderland of skewed elephant 6-style psychedelia wrapping itself around old style indie jangle & joy zipper-esque sunspaced wooziness. i was a king is frode stromstad, with assistance from emil nikolaisen of serena maneesh on bass & drums. blasts of countrydelia & folky sonics, a healthy dose of sun-dazed harmonies, shoegazing guitars, blurry bass & phased drums, with a side order of tremolo. "*imagine neil young's ragged glory remixed by kevin shields*" - [guardian](#). [happy soul / bb island](#)

qui : loves miracle l.a. duo qui are now fronted by the true legend that is david yow, of the jesus lizard/scratch acid fame. qui was formed in 2000 by drummer/vocalist paul christensen & guitarist vocalist matt cronk. this album includes covers of frank zappa's 'willie the pimp' & pink floyd's 'echoes' & 7 mind-blowing tracks of their own. strap on your knee pads, jesus lizard/scratch acid fans will not be disappointed. "*they still pack a metallic, tight-as-you-like punch that's more than ready for 10 rounds with his uniquely gnarled voice*" 4/5 - [mojo](#). [ipecac records](#)

carta : the glass bottom boat the long-awaited debut - the fruits of a lengthy process involving an ever-changing line-up featuring a revolving door of san francisco musicians. engineered by beulah's eli crews & featuring sacha galvagna & jared matt greenberg (charles atlas) & alexander kort (subtle) amongst others, this is a remarkably accomplished album, as one might expect considering the pedigree of those involved. the album is mostly instrumental, predominantly downtempo but with constant emphasis on melody. the title track features full vocals from sarah bell & sounds like the best thing espers have ever recorded. [resonant](#)

little annie : songs from the coal mine canary the fabulous new full length featuring 10 new songs. annie is assisted by antony (of the johnsons) & joe budenholzer (backworld / small creatures) who both co-wrote many of the songs. little annie-aka annie anxiety-aka annie bandez is an adventurer, chanteuse/lyricist, multi-media artist & post-modern cabaret queen. an intensely theatrical affair. "little annie infuses her album with such an aura of drama, excitement & otherworldly fog that the listener is swept away in the majesty of her creation" – bc critics. [durtro jnana](#)

the dragons : bfi the multi-instrumentalist sons of a symphony conductor & an opera singer, the dragon brothers decide it's time to create their own psychedelic soul/rock masterpiece. they find themselves layering their instruments in new ways, adding deep, bassy vocal lines & then ramming them up against falsetto harmonies, adding organs & space age sound effects, recording spirituals & pop & crazy rock opera. the effect is increasingly spacey & weird, but also funky – a missing link between new directions others are exploring in jazz & soul as well as rock music. [ninja](#)

v/a : a-z of bestival 2007 – compiled by rob da bank (2cd) a lively trip through the acts performing at bestival, held together with a slightly tenuous use of the alphabet (e.g john foxx represents 'x!'). features tracks from the likes of the orb, chemical brothers, primal scream, bonde do role, fujiya & miyagi, the go! team, the gossip, dan le sac vs scroobius pip, seasick steve & more. there are 5 pairs of 'golden vouchers' randomly enclosed within the 1st 5000 cds which are exchangeable for bestival tickets for 2008. [sunday best](#)

gnac : the arrival of the fog the 5th studio album from the sophisticated instrumental project from mark tranmer. the album centres on 10 new instrumental pieces recorded in tokyo, osaka, wollongong & hebden bridge. the moods vary from bary to roubaix, reilly to delerue. the 70 minute cd includes 2 extended bonus tracks, 'bright days in winter' & 'winter blanket'. [imaginary soundtracks](#)

dax riggs : we sing of only blood or love this album finds the louisiana singer/songwriter (who previously fronted deadboy & the elephantmen & cult favourites, acid bath) finally making his maiden voyage under his own name. "as if jeff buckley covered ziggy stardust on the banks of the mississippi delta" – esquire, "pure swamp gothic with riggs singing like a ghostly david bowie" – the new yorker. [fat possum](#)

proclaimers : life with you (standard or 2 cd set with bonus live cd) recorded this year at rockfield studio in monmouth with producer steve evans, the new album from the scottish twins features 13 brand new recordings, including a fantastic cover version of the wreckless eric classic, 'whole wide world'. the special edition of the album comes complete with an additional disc containing 7 songs recorded live at the band's hogmanay concert, glasgow december 31st 2003. [w14](#)

dexys midnight runners : too rye ay 25 anniversary deluxe edition of kevin rowland & dexys midnight runners' best-known album. "throughout the album, rowland's distinct, unique voice takes the fore, but the revamped dexy's lineup proves it was the original version's equal, if not better. recruiting a new band able to create the "celtic soul" rowland dreamed about turned out to be exactly the right move. excellently produced by rowland & the legendary clive langer/alan winstanley production team, too-rye-ay sounds like an old soul revue recorded on stage, no doubt an intentional goal" 4/5 – all music guide, 4/5 – mojo. [mercury](#)

jamie scott & the town : park bench theories a 12-track collection of songs jamie has been working on for the last couple of years. says jamie: "park bench theories on a very basic level is about misinterpretation & misunderstanding." his beautiful, dexterous voice is at the heart of the album. [polydor](#)

kmfdm : tohuvahobu now in their 23rd year, they remain a musical entity to be reckoned with. founder & leader sascha konietzko, conducts his army of analogue synths & wields his razor sharp lyrics & vocals. chanteuse lucia infuses her tracks with a fiercely powered urgency alternating with soft beauty. the core remains solid as ever with jules hodgson, andy selway & steve white providing the cranking guitars & forceful beats that kmfdm are known for. while staying true to the ultra heavy beat, the album offers up servings of dance, metal & industrial, along with unexpected elements of darkwave, sweeping epic & rock/pop. [rykodisc](#)

christopher rees : cautionary tales his 3rd & finest album combines the string laden sophistication of the 1st with the intimate rootsy qualities of the 2nd to quite stunning effect. features a rare appearance from much loved american heroine victoria williams who contributes her inimitable charms to the duet 'bottom dollar', while belgian siren charline rose (calexico, giant sand) exudes 'that' breathy french sensuality on closing track until love comes around again. becky newman (the hot puppies) also provides a significant & seductive female presence on several songs including the jaw dropping murder ballad 'mary lee'. [redeye music](#)

the pit that became a tower : the pineapple fields (comes with 1st album "behold! the unseen" for free) this outfit ranges from 1-piece to 5-piece, depending on who's available. this is their 2nd album – a collection of acoustic-driven psych/lo-fi/folk songs recorded in a studio, in a bedroom, in the backstage of a club & in a now-evacuated town in the gaza strip. "there isn't one other record that comes to mind that carries the urgency in emotion that this album does" – decoy music. [men of israel](#)

mylla : vanya the ultimate psychedelic party-band for the loosely knit family of musicians centered around the subliminal sounds label (like dungen, the works, life on earth!, s.t. mikael & many other swedish psychsters). the music is steeped in the swedish 70s 'prog' tradition. the band sings in swedish & gustav ejstes from dungen turns up as a guest with his fiddle. [subliminal sounds](#)

other passengers : we are all debut from the hip, dark, brooding brooklyn band who have been compared to joy division & qotsa. they have recently collaborated with hip hop act dalek & are planning a collaboration with portishead, who are big fans. *"they seem to have a peculiar leaning towards the excitable ambition of a band like the mars volta, all chop-changing songwriting & proggy flourishes...great stuff"* – boomkat, *"the record explodes in style"* - gigwise. for fans of interpol or mars volta. [something in construction](#)

bellavista: s/f the san francisco outfit's debut album. whether you call it lo-fi bloozegazer or dreamy fuzz pop, this is a woozy, sun-scorched guitar record. it captures the band's raw, stripped down sound with screeching 6 strings & big, pounding drums. the songs are skuzzy, fire-forged rockers & they follow suit sonically. this stuff is dirty, dank & absolutely mesmerizing. think brian jonestown massacre, early brmc, or a fist-pumping jesus & mary chain. comprised of rex shelverton (guitar/vocals), jeremy bringetto (bass) & cary lascala (drums), bellavista are otherwise remembered as three of the final members of vue. [take root](#)

v/a : you got yours! east bay garage 1965-67 the groovy sounds of 1960s california – this power packed compilation focuses on one of the grungiest & most prolific garage rock scenes in the san francisco bay area. featuring tracks from the baytovens, the harbinger complex, the blue lite conspiracy, the spyderys & many others. [ace](#)

mustangs & madras : la lechuza a splendidly discomfoting album with many echoes of the past - the swagger of the pop group, the angular rhythms of the likes of early gang of four, the droning guitars of siouxsie & the banshees, the slash & burn tactics of the contortions, the dark pop of the cure, whilst the shadows of myriad hardcore heroes are cast across the album as well. the album is filled with unexpected twists, as the band scamper between genres, time signatures & time itself, melding past to present with abandon. *" a wild ride into the unknown"* 4.5/5 - all music. [latest flame](#)

patti scialfa : play it as it lays solo album fro the e street band member & wife of bruce springsteen. a typical mix of roots, rock, folk, country & strong harmonies. *"an effective combination of earthiness & poise. these 10 songs demonstrate a visceral love & understanding of rock & soul & a vocal delivery pitched somewhere between rickie lee jones & edie brickell"* – guardian, 4/5 – [mojo](#). [columbia](#)

noir : strange desire debut album from the band formed by george kajanus (lead singer of sailor) & tim dry (shock, tik & tok). they met in a bar in barcelona in 1995 & sharing a mutual passion for black clothes, film noir & music, they decided to form 'noir'. this album was originally scheduled for a 1997 release, but it finally gets the opportunity to see the light of day 10 years later. [angel air](#)

laibach : nova akropola (limited edition digipack) original album featuring a bonus enhanced track of a 4 minute film about this acclaimed band. the eastern european industrial experimentalists with a heavy political leaning, express their views through their music both here & on their continued career. [cherry red](#)

my brightest diamond : bring me the workhorse (reissue) debut from shara worden, opera singer turned pop songwriter. the album gathers all the essential elements of classical & pop to create an album that is simultaneously gentle & urgent, evoking moments of tremendous joy & sorrow. she contributed backing vocals to sufjan stevens' "illinois" & also toured with him as "head cheerleader" of the illinoisemakers. *"sparkles very brightly indeed"* – word. for fans of feist, pj harvey or kate bush. [asthmatic kitty](#)

the jam : all mod cons ; dig the new breed ; in the city ; setting sons ; sound affects ; the gift ; this is the modern world to celebrate the jam's 30th anniversary, 7 of their classic albums have been re-packaged in mini replicas of the original vinyl sleeves. this collection is strictly limited edition – there will be one print run only! [polydor](#)

peter hammill : sitting targets ; the love songs ; skin ; and close as this the last 4 remastered albums in the peter hammill / virgin reissue campaign. as with the previous 8 reissued albums, peter hammill (in his own words) *"hoped to do something new & to learn something. with every album i expected to make mistakes. some of these, of course, were educational in nature."* these latest 4 albums are no exception. all albums have been remastered by peter himself & come with explanatory sleeve notes written by him. [emi](#)

paolo nutini : these streets (2cd festival edition) cd 1 features the full studio version of the album & cd 2 features 8 tracks recorded in june at the isle of wight festival. paolo's staggering live performances have seen him receive high critical-acclaim; the independent simply describe paolo's live act as "riveting"; q have described paolo as having "a remarkable voice", whilst the guardian has likened paolo's voice to "the marvellous rasping of a mississippi bluesman." [atlantic](#)

plain white t's : stop the band's debut album, originally self released by the band & re-released by fearless records in 2002. the songs from this hook-laden album are still regarded by the fans as the best. [fearless](#)

dance/electonica

ayo : joyful joy ogunmakin (aka ayo) was born in nigeria & raised in germany & france to a romanian mother & nigerian father. her enticing debut was produced in new york with jay newland (norah jones) & is bursting with bittersweet lyrics & melodies, accompanied by her ebullient and distinctive vocals. a beguiling fusion of soul, r&b, folk & afrobeat. [polydor](#)

michael fakesch : dos fakesch is one half of germany's premier electronic duo funkstörung, one of the most influential idm outfits ever (next to autechre or aphex twin). his new album takes us into the funk world of curtis mayfield, ray charles, sly stone & especially prince. nevertheless, fakesch doesn't forget his electronic roots, he just incorporates them in a much lighter & more humorous way than he used to do with funkstörung. groovy, catchy & quite simply refreshing - funk & soul music for the 21st century for fans of jamie lidell's 'multiply'. [!k7](#)

the freestylers : a different story (2cd) britain's no1 dance floor bangers are back with an eagerly awaited new mix album. a superb collection of their favourite tunes, edited & spliced together with their own samples, acapellas & productions to provide the funkier mix for any dance fan! they've included records from most of the genres that have inspired them over the years, joining the dots of the history of breakbeat....from electro to hardcore, to current faves. [susu](#)

mr ronze : a war of nerves debut mini album from welsh producer adam lewis. once you've got past the terrible pseudonym & artwork, this is really quite a special album that's been getting some serious action on the resident stereo. as lead producer & multi instrumentalist for arkane, he was part of a group that helped shape u.k. hip hop. the mix of ominous sci-fi strings & booming beats of 'the day the earth stood still' & the opulent build up of 'yasa', sit harmoniously alongside the more contemplative moments. bookended by the eerie piano fallout of the 'prologue' & 'epilogue' - the entirety of the album carries the mark of a man unafraid of big sounds & developing ideas. highly recommended. [skipping beats](#)

luke vibert : chicago, detroit, redruth this release brings together many strands of his work : drum & bass ("comfycozy" recalling past glories as plug); trip-hop ("rotting flesh bags" being his finest wagon christ type track for ages); breaks ("breakbeat metal music" the possessor of a speak & spell lyric of coaxing danceability) & acid ("argument fly" must be his most straight-ahead acid track ever, reminiscent of f.u.s.e or early 808state). the album hangs together with the strands of acid, breakbeats, techno & disco at its heart - the reassuring hand of an old master triumphs again. [planet mu](#)

v/a : claud von stroke at the controls this series aims to delve deep into the musical psyches of the world's greatest contemporary djs. taking on compiler's duties this time is 'san francisco's finest' claud vonstroke (barclay crenshaw). claud is currently the hottest dj on the block & his at the controls mix takes the series up a gear, as he sucks you into his twisted world of jackin' grooves & bumpy minimal beats. features exclusive tracks, remixes & edits from deep dish, dj koze, luciano & the man himself. [resist](#)

uberzone : ideology the musical alter-ego of southern california native q. having won an army of fans with his debut 'faith in the future', the past 5 years have seen him criss-cross the globe with his dynamic live show. finally finding time to return to the studio, the don of us breaks releases his sophomore album. [functional](#)

hip hop

talib kweli : ear drum the former black star member releases his 4th solo album - a collection that showcases both his lyrical powers & his powerfully resonating musical approach. 'ear drum' boasts the production talents of kanye west, will.i.am of the black-eyed peas, hi-tek, pete rock, kwame & madlib. highlights of the set include the pounding percussion & minimalist grooves of 'more or less', the single 'listen' & guest appearances from norah jones on 'soon the new day' & jean grae on 'say something'. [warner bros](#)

robust : el foto grande the official sophomore solo release from robust, whose 2004 debut "potholes in our molecules" raised eyebrows worldwide with its hard-hitting eclectic beats & intense rhymes. this record finds him more mature & seeing straight-forward, speaking to the masses. the beats provide a diverse backdrop for robust to focus his animated rhymes on & the team delivers with deliberate clarity. [galapagos4](#)

jay dee : jay delicious documents dilla's early production on delicious vinyl. in addition to original productions & remixes for the pharcyde, he skillfully worked with the label on incredible mixes for the brand new heavies, as well as unreleased remixes for n'dea davenport. from the jazzed out rhodes syncopation of 'sometimes featuring q-tip, to the crazy cutting up of 'got to give it up' for 'saturday night' featuring mos def, jay dee shows there's no tempo he can't freak on some otherworldly jazzed up funk tip. [traffic](#)

soul / funk

v/a : vintage grooves - funk genre defining compilation series compiled by iain dewhurst - originator of the classic mastercuts series. "this is the 2nd album in the series & this time we are looking at funk....don't worry, you're in good hands.....happy listening!" - iain. [absolute/seamless](#)

v/a : kevin rowland: presents motown made to measure the dexy's frontman compiles his favourite motown tracks & puts together a collection that includes the temptations, marvin gaye, jackson 5 & many more. "the records had so much more energy than other records & that they were all from one label, that hadn't happened before. it was almost like, if it's tamla it's good." here are some of the songs from the label that meant something to kevin. "they affected me at the time and still do", he says. [island](#)

johnny "guitar" watson : untouchable! – the classic 1959-66 recordings the ultimate rarities package, containing almost everything he cut between 1959 & 1965 for independent labels big & small – 27 tracks in all. this period of his career is less well documented than those which came before & after & about half of these tracks have never been legitimately reissued on cd before. this is incredible r'n'b that bridges the gap between his classic r'n'b & his widely acclaimed 60s & 70s soul & funk. [ace](#)

jazz / contemporary / classical

elan mehler : scheme for thought a towering (if as yet little-known) talent, elan has a compositional touch & style that has seen his work declared reminiscent of greats from bill evans to claude debussy. contemporary music recorded wholly live & in the best traditions of jazz & improvisation. intimate, elevated & beautiful, it's a rarity to savour. includes covers/reworkings of elvis presley & gillian welch. "an introspective beauty, this is the record i've been dying to release for years - i hope you enjoy!" - gilles peterson. [brownswood](#)

erik satie : selected piano works vol. 1 features several of the visionary french composer's best known compositions, including the famously poised 'trois gymnopédies', all 6 haunting 'gnossiennes' & 'je te veux', as well as more experimental pieces such as 'descriptions automatiques', 'avant-dernières pensées' & 'sports et divertissements'. this is an extraordinary collection of 21 miniatures from 1914 which also includes satie's single-act, neo-dada lyric comedy 'le piège de médusa', comprising 'seven tiny dances for jonah the monkey' & illustrated by the cubist painter georges braque. the 46 pieces on this 72 minute cd are performed by pianist bojan gorisek. [itm](#)

james taylor quartet : don't mess with mr.t - james taylor quartet plays motown an album that explodes into life from the opening bars of 'money', the very first motown hit song – don't mess with mr t, this is one of the hammond maestro's most exciting albums ever. 12 tracks that run the gamut of motown flavours – from the driving groove of marvin gaye's 'got to give it up' to the late night, jazzy soundtrack mood of the title track. guest vocals are provided by omar, hil st soul & donna gardier. [dome](#)

happy apple : happy apple back on top midwestern smart alecs with a jones for sharp collective interplay & a rockish energy. drummer dave king is one third of the bad plus, for whom he has arranged revisions of tunes by blondeie, nirvana & aphex twin. this group bustles with the same intent but they sound more naturally organic. bassist erik fratzke plays electric, giving the music the muscle to conquer rock dives, while saxophonist michael lewis summons the fiery, playful tone of ornette coleman. a punk rock drive adds the edge to this spirited tenor trio's music. [sunnyside](#)

blues

john mayall's bluesbreakers : bare wires ; blues from laurel canyon ; crusade

four classic albums from john mayall's bluesbreakers, each one features bonus tracks. [decca pop](#)

john mayall's bluesbreakers : diary of a band vol 1 & 2 (2cd) the classic 1968 album has been digitally remastered & restored to its original status as a double album. sleeve notes by mark powell.

[decca pop](#)

ian siegal : swagger brand new, high-octane release from the critically acclaimed star of the uk blues scene. [nugene records](#)

folk

linda thompson : versatile heart the music draws from the sort of classic folk-rock that thompson helped invent, namely traditional british isles balladry, rockabilly & contemporary art song. this release marks the first time linda has taken less than 17 years to follow-up a solo album! guest artists include her children teddy & kamila, antony (of antony & the johnsons), martin carthy, eliza carthy, martha wainwright, john doyle & legendary british accordion player john kirkpatrick. the songs include 7 original or co-written songs from linda, along with compositions from rufus wainwright, tom waits & kamila thompson. 4/5 – [mojo](#). [rounder](#)

kate rusby : awkward annie the eagerly awaited new album from the uk's most popular, acclaimed & important young folk singer. features eddi reader, john mccusker, ian carr, andy cutting & many other fine musicians. includes bonus track 'the village green preservation society' from the bbc's recent jam & jerusalem series. [pure records](#)

john fahey : fare forward voyagers finally, a cd release for his 1973 album – his only non-christian religious recording. the album consists of 3 long tracks recorded in tribute to swami satchidananda. in 1990, john fahey said that this was his greatest guitar record, adding that it only contained one edit. he gave up playing the 3 songs here as they were too demanding. [takoma](#)

world

v/a : brazil 70 - after tropicalia the follow up to soul jazz's 'tropicalia' (resident's compilation of the year 2006) traces brazilian music in the 1970s in the aftermath of 'tropicalia' & as the country's dictatorship entered its most oppressive phase. musicians & artists from the 'tropicalia' period of the late 60s such as gilberto gil, rita lee (os mutantes lead-singer) & gal costa entered a new phase mixing rock, funk, samba & soul alongside a wealth of like-minded new artists such as novos baianos, raul seixas, nelson angelo & joyce & more. features an all-star line up of all the key artists featured on the first album : caetano veloso, gilberto gil, tom ze, gal costa, rita lee (os mutantes) & carries on exactly where the first cd left off. essential! [soul jazz](#)

reggae

v/a : the best of greensleeves records - from dubplate to download (2cd) the ultimate greensleeves collection that everybody has been waiting for, featuring 30 tracks, one track from every year of greensleeves history – 1977 to 2007. a 30 track double cd (containing a link to an additional free download track by mr vegas – 'hot wuk') containing a 30 page booklet with the history of the label, exclusive images & interviews with the labels founders, along with quotes & stories from artists on the label. [greensleeves](#)

dvd

v/a : atlantic records: the house that ahmet built "the atlantic sound", which sprang from the small record label ertegun co-founded in 1947, was a revolutionary new genre, single-handedly influencing the future direction of contemporary music. this dvd follows ertegun's remarkable career & its impact on the world of popular music, while offering an insider's look at the recording industry from its beginnings to the present. this original documentary features rare, private & classic clips, as well as performances & studio sessions with solomon burke, ray charles, aretha franklin, mick jagger, ben e. king, led zeppelin & many more. [warner vision](#)

mags

plan b : issue 25 – sept 2007 animal collective, daft punk, pj harvey, scout niblett, chrome hoof, bass clef & loads more. comes with a free bella union cd featuring a top selection of the artists on the roster.

mojo : 167 – october 2007 pink floyd, tony wilson, siouxsie, ringo & loads more. covermount cd of 15 mind bending freakouts from the likes of spacemen 3, the flaming lips, gong, jennifer gentle, hawkwind & more.

singles

single of the week

mum : they made frogs smoke til they exploded limited 7". [fatcat](#)

dan deacon – the crystal cat limited 7". [car park](#)

interpol : mammoth cd & 2 x 7". [capitol](#)

the go! team : doing it right cds & 2 x 7". [memphis industries](#)

the toy guns : nice one jerry / shoot the boy limited 7". [regal](#)

hercules & love affair : classique # 2 / roar 12". [dfa](#)

spring tides : hostile takeover 12" stickered & hand-stamped by the band. strictly limited to 500 units only for the world. [blank tapes](#)

the black lips : katrina 2 x 7". [vice](#)

editors : an end has a start ltd & numbered, 7" clear vinyl. [kitchenware](#)

scouting for girls : she's so lovely 2 x 7". [epic](#)

candie payne : one more chance 7". [deltasonic](#)

siouxsie : into a swan 2 x 7". [w|4](#)

the hat : less of a lover limited 7". sunday best
noisettes : the count of monte christo coloured & limited 7". mercury
passenger : walk you home cd & 7". chalkmark
paul steel : your loss cd & 7". fascination
the rumble strips : girls and boys in love 12" & 7". island
marc bolan / trex : hot love limited numbered 7". umtv
the monks kitchen : bringing hurricanes limited 7". 1965
tar...feathers : rumours travel fast limited 7". release the bats!
hot hot heat : let me in limited picture disc 7" warner bros
king creosote : you've no clue do you 7". names
the sounds : painted by numbers 7". korova
the shins : turn on me ltd 7". transgressive
mountain of one : brown piano 12". mountain
elektrofant v.s sci-fi skane : cocaine/tema 2 12". cassette
shocking pinks : narrator 7". dfa
reverend & the makers : he said he loved me 7". wall of sound
stalkers : let's get it together ltd 7". heron
voxtrot : firecracker 7". playlouder recordings
beastie boys : electric worm limited 7". parlophone
windmill : fit limited edition red vinyl 7". melodic
the rosie taylor project : black & white films ltd 7". bad sneakers
the files : high very limited 7". no carbon
elvis presley : (let me be your) teddy bear ultra limited, numbered 10". rca

pre-orders & ordering service

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